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Wrestling



**WARNING TO THE
LEGION OF DOOM**
Recruit A Third Member To Counter
Demolition

Oct. 1990
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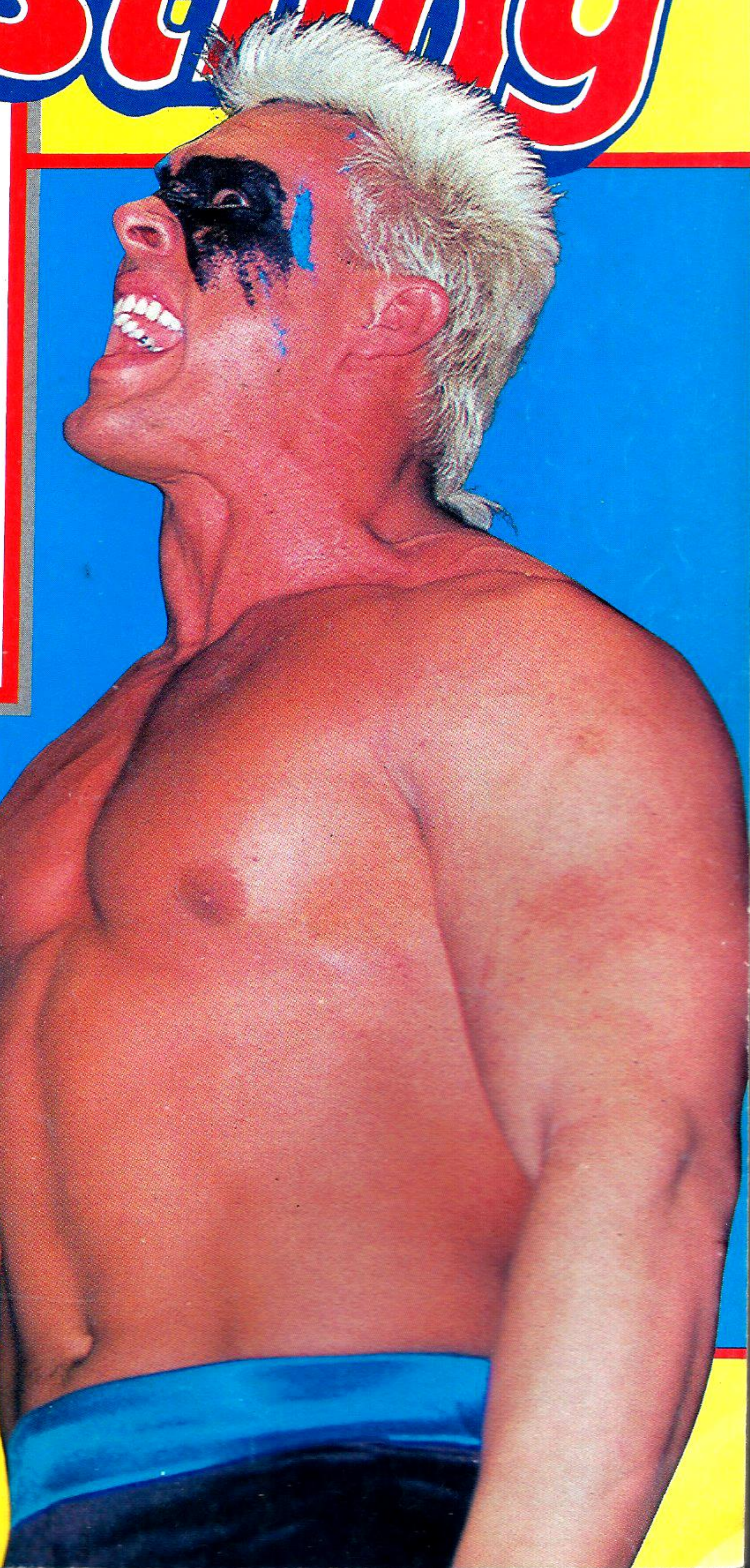
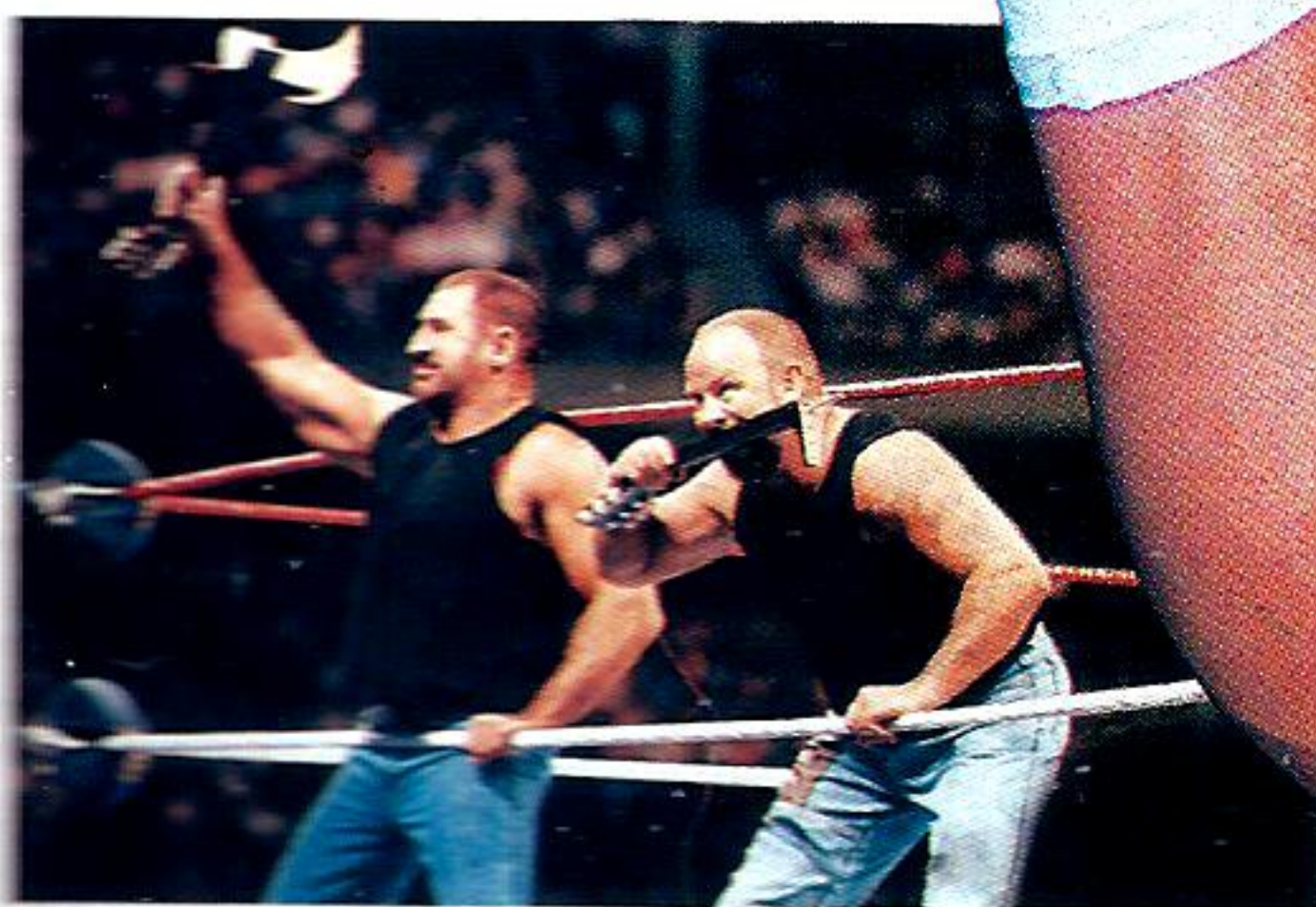
STING:

**"I FEEL LIKE I'VE
CONQUERED
THE WORLD!"**

An Exclusive "Hotseat"
Interview

**THOSE WACKY
BUSHWHACKERS**

Puttin' The Bruise On
Rhythm 'n' Blues!



THE MAGAZINE THAT RIPS
THE LID OFF PRO WRESTLING

INSIDE

Wrestling

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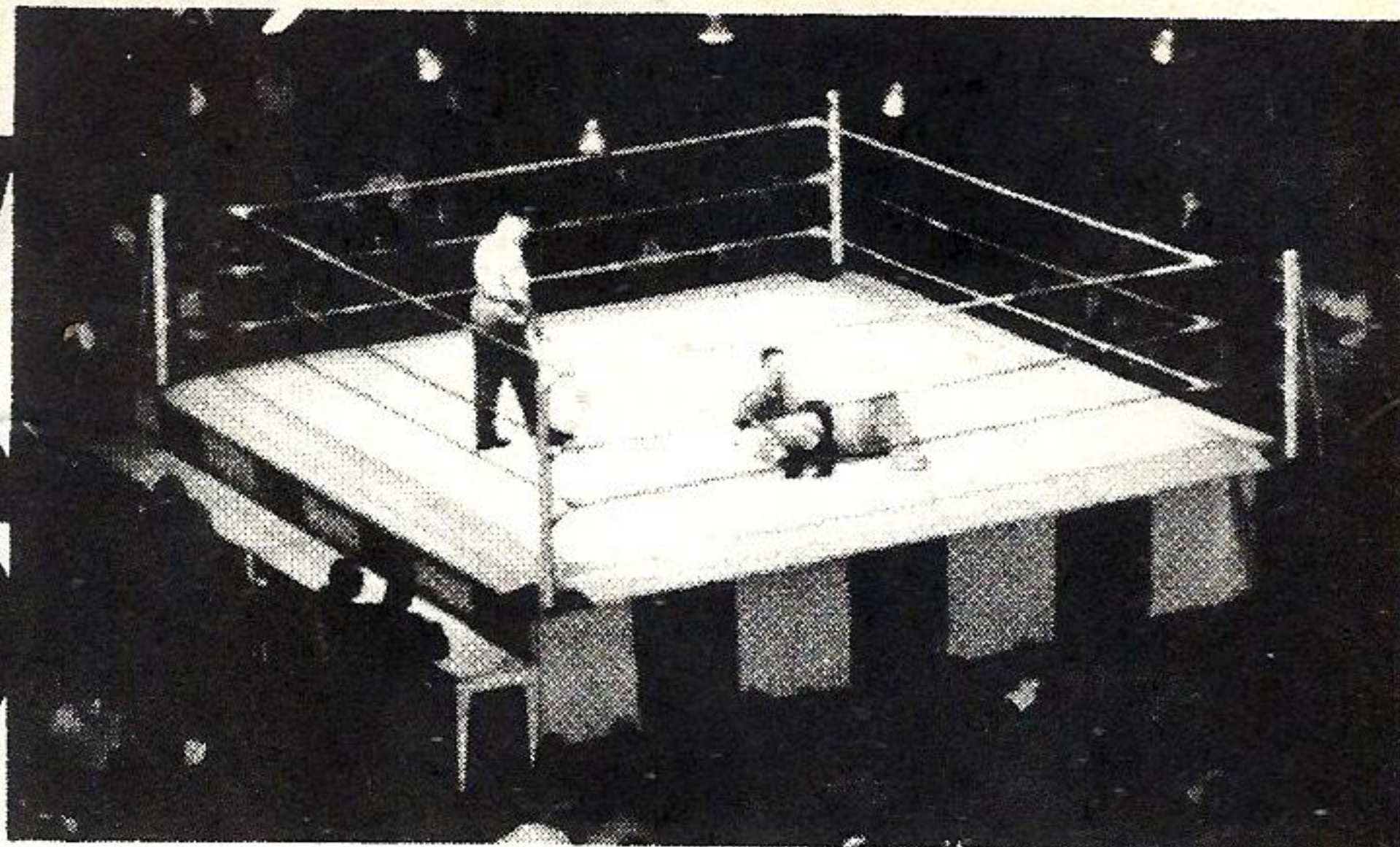
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SEND LETTERS TO:

SINCERELY YOURS

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Despite losing the WWF World title, Hulk Hogan should not consider retiring, because there's so much more to accomplish, say readers Katie Straub and Kevin Funderburk.

DON'T QUIT, HULK

I just finished reading "Post-Wrestlemania Fallout, Part I: Our Plea To Hulk Hogan—Retire As A Hero" (August 1990), and I don't think Hogan should retire.

We all know he's not about to just walk out of the ring. Everybody knows Hogan is the best wrestler ever to enter the ring, and the "Hulkster" knows that more challenges await him there. He's not about to retire when there's

unfinished business.

KATIE STRAUB
Strasburg, OH

Hogan shouldn't retire yet. Ric Flair's a six-time NWA World champion and Hogan is just as good as Flair. Hogan can become WWF champion at least three or four more times.

KEVIN FUNDERBURK
Brunswick, GA

SORRY, LIZ

I am writing in response to Liz Hunter's "On Assignment" column in the August 1990 issue. First, I want to say The Rock 'n' Roll Express may be pretty boys, but they are very talented. They wouldn't be four-time NWA World tag team champions if they weren't. Just because a few fans at the Byrne Meadowlands Arena in New Jersey did not like them doesn't mean they are not well-liked in general.

I am one of their biggest fans and have been since they started in the NWA in 1985. I enjoy seeing them in person whenever I can. I am sick and tired of Eddie Ellner putting them down and insulting them. With their good looks and skills, they're one of the best tag teams around. They will be champions again soon!

CLARA PORTO
Saylorsburg, PA

People are jealous of The Rock 'n' Roll Express because they're very good-looking and have outstanding talent. They've worked very hard to get where they are today, and I am sick of people putting them down. The size of

their audience has increased since they returned to the NWA. That should tell people something.

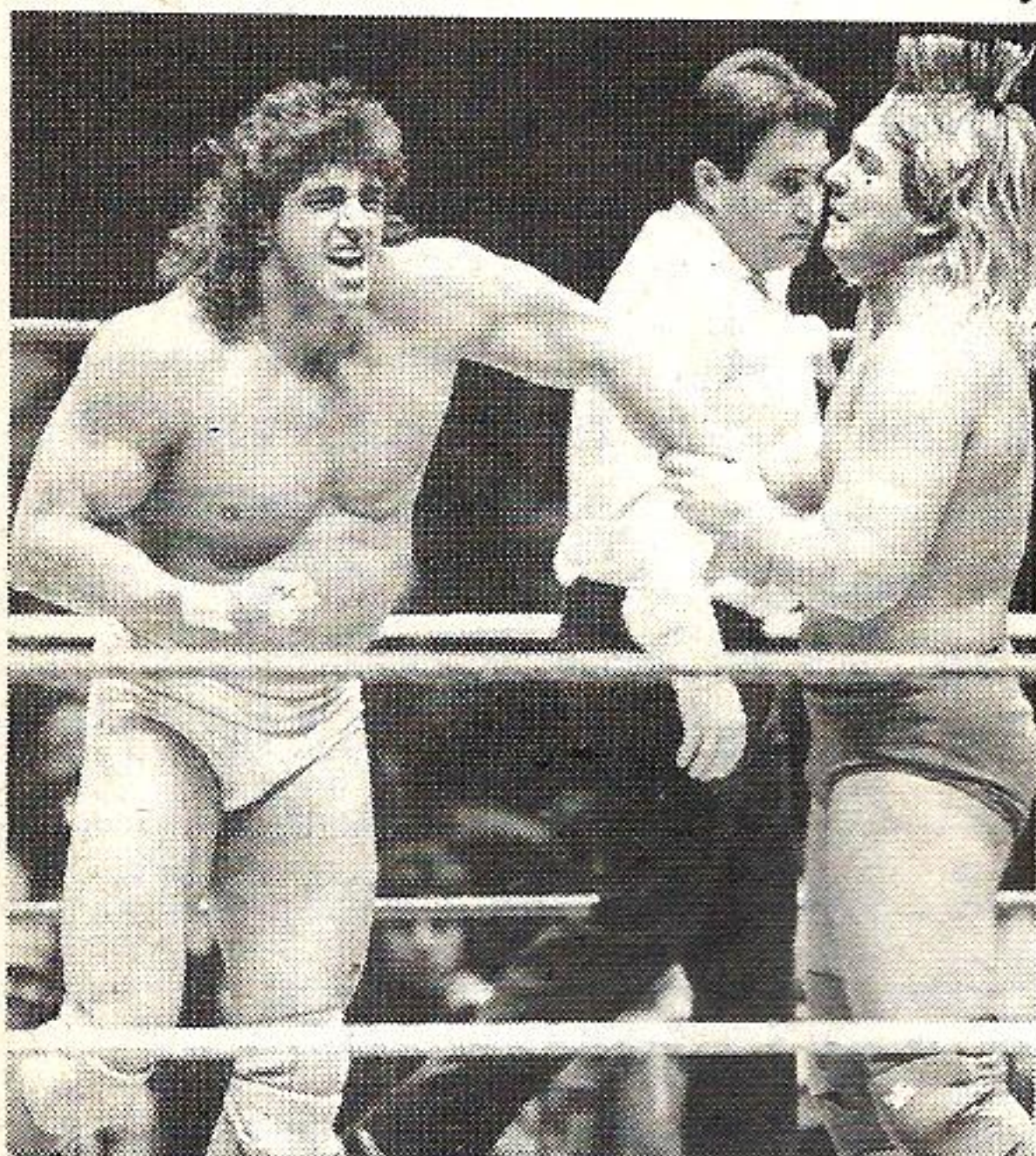
The Rock 'n' Rolls will be five-time World champions. They are the best.

REGINA BEHRINGER
Leavenworth, KS

BRAVO, TERRY

I have just finished reading the August 1990 "Hotseat" interview with Terry Taylor ("The 'Red Rooster' Is Dead And Buried!"), and I have one thing to say: Bravo!

For more than one agonizing year, the WWF made Taylor the laughing-stock of the sport, making just about everyone forget how talented he really



"Red Rooster" Terry Taylor yanks Rick Martel's arm. But Taylor is the Red Rooster no more, and reader Harry Simon says hooray!

is. Now it appears that Terry has decided his self-respect is more important than greenbacks. He may be poorer in the pocket, but he must feel at least 10 times richer on the inside.

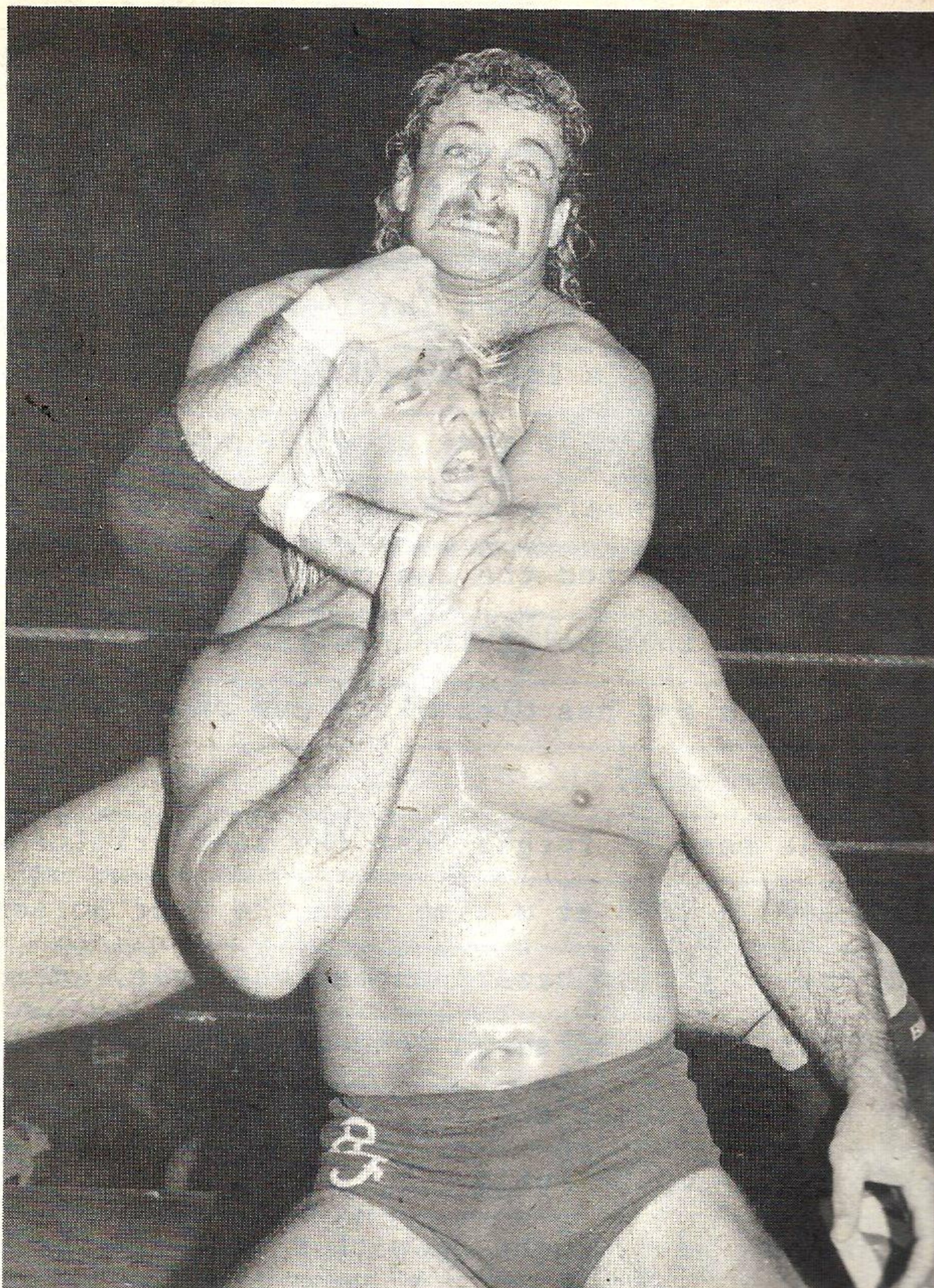
It takes a big man to sacrifice a big paycheck for his self-esteem. Terry has earned my respect. That may not be worth a hell of a lot to anybody else, but it sure is to me.

The "Red Rooster" is dead! Long live Terry Taylor!

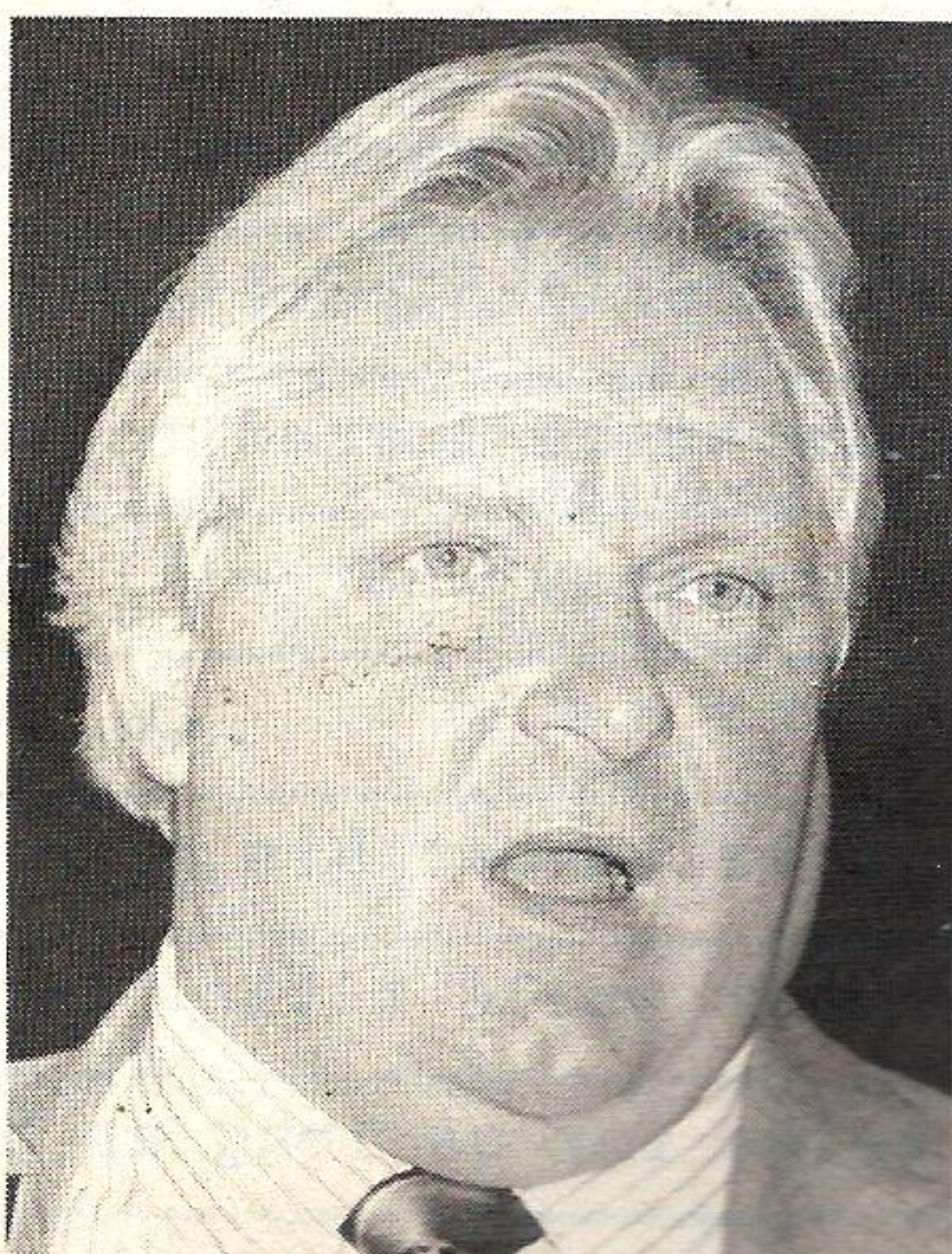
HARRY SIMON
Las Vegas, NV

MISSING MAGNUM

After reading the Sting-Magnum T.A. "One On One" in your August 1990 issue, I remembered just how much I miss seeing Magnum in the ring. Then I started to think about my



Magnum T.A.'s battles against Ric Flair remind reader Julie Gilliard what a great competitor Magnum was and how much she misses seeing him in the ring.



All Bobby Heenan knows how to do is insult people, notes reader Kemo Franson.

all-time favorite wrestler suffering such a horrible fate, and how the wrestling world was robbed of such a great athlete.

Whether or not Magnum ever returns to wrestling, I want him to know he'll always be in my heart.

JULIE GILLIARD
Quincy, MA

BOBBY THE BOOB

I think Carl Leitz' attack on Gorilla Monsoon in the July 1990 issue ("Torrential Monsoon") was uncalled for. Gorilla is a good commentator and Bobby "The Boob" Heenan is not. Heenan always has something nasty to

(Continued on page 46)

EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

Stu
Saks

Editor-in-Chief

A lot has been written lately about the decline of NWA World champion Ric Flair. How he's lost non-title matches to Junkyard Dog, how he's softened his title defense schedule with a six-man tag team matches, how he's become increasingly dependent on his Four Horsemen cronies.

Has Flair reached the end of the line? At some point in the life of any athlete, that point is inevitable. But Ric Flair has sunk to this level before and has clawed his way back. I'm not convinced that he can't do it again.

People seem to forget that the same criticism Flair is now taking he took back in 1988 at a time when The Four Horsemen were at their peak. When the criticism became unbearable (yes, even Flair has some pride), Flair killed the Horsemen concept, engaged in a pair of brilliant series with Rick Steamboat and Terry Funk, and earned his position as a respected champion again.

Time may have caught up with Flair, it's true. But we're talking about a very special individual here. I wouldn't be so quick to count him out just yet. The best thing that could happen to Flair is the one thing that he fears most: losing. He needs the personal challenge of being a challenger again. He needs to be in a position in which disqualifications will do him no good. He needs to be forced to rededicate himself, to train hard, to formulate a strategy that will allow him to legitimately beat the new champion.

If Flair still is able to bring out his greatness, he will do so as a man determined to win a seventh world title. Ironically, if doesn't lose the title, he'll probably reign for as long as he can satisfy the egos and pocketbooks of his glorified bodyguards, and he'll be ridiculed as a paper champion until the day he retires.

'TOP SECRET'

Behind the Dressing Room Door

**by David
Rosenbaum**

THE AMERICAN Wrestling Association has Russians, Samoans, Canadians, Germans, South Africans, as well as Americans, on its talent roster. That's not usual.

But there is something that sets the AWA apart from the NWA, the WWF, and all the rest: It has an unusual number of wrestlers who have served in the armed forces of this or another country.

Nikita Koloff: five years in the Soviet Red Army.

Sgt. Slaughter: six years in the United States Marines.

Baron Von Raschke: eight years in the East German air force.

The Trooper: four years in the United States Army.

Col. DeBeers: still enlisted in the South African army.

These five men have something else in common: All of them saw action, either in a war or a war action.

Nikita Koloff helped stop a nuclear weapons protest in Red Square. "It is not something I'm proud of," Nikita now says.

Sgt. Slaughter saw action in Vietnam: "I was called to serve my country and I did. I'm proud of it. It's something I'll always be proud of," the Sarge barked.

Baron Von Raschke worked on the border patrol at the Berlin Wall. "I worked at Checkpoint Charlie," Von Raschke said. "Many times we had to stop people from escaping."

Col. DeBeers helped stop several anti-apartheid demonstrations and was a leader of the apartheid movement. He has since taken his fight to the U.S.

And The Trooper? Well, he says he saw action, but won't say when or where. "I'm just proud of

(Continued on page 50)

I HAD HEARD some rumors about Jerry Lawler getting ready to renounce his rulebreaking ways. I knew all about Lawler reestablishing himself as a fan favorite in Memphis during a boxer vs. wrestler match in the Mid-South coliseum in late June.

But I could hardly have known the reason behind Lawler's change of attitude.

"Let me take you for a little ride, Craig," Lawler said as he ushered me into his car. "I'm sure you'll find this interesting."

Lawler took me on a tour through the streets of Memphis . . . up Walnut Grove Road past Galloway Park . . . down Poplar Avenue near Overton Park . . . south on 240 past Pine Hills Park and the Defense Depot.

"Jerry, I've seen the sights before," I said. "Where are we going now, Graceland?"

"Sure, you've seen the sights before, but look closer this time."

We repeated our drive through and around the city as Lawler proceeded to point out the sights—only they weren't university buildings, museums, or monuments to Elvis Presley.

"See that bunch over there?" Lawler said as he slowed the car's pace near a playground. I looked to the basketball courts and saw a group of about a dozen kids, ranging in age from about seven to 11 or so.

"That's the future, Craig," Lawler said as he drove away. A few minutes later, we stopped in front of another playground. Two kids, couldn't have been more than 13, were smoking cigarettes.

"That's the kind of thing that worries me," Lawler said. "Today it's cigarettes, tomorrow—who knows?"

Lawler, turning a corner and heading toward another park, took a deep breath that reflected his sincere concern about the future of kids in Memphis.

"There are a million reasons why kids today are doing what they're doing," Lawler said, "and we can sit here for six months and argue about it. Hey, every Sunday morning, the TV screens are filled with talking heads in suits trying to figure out how to solve these problems, but the reality of it is that the problem is here, and something has to be done to deal with it—now, before it's too late."

"The King's" way of dealing with the youth in his kingdom?

"Watch this," Lawler said as he stopped the car near another park that was packed with kids playing basketball. He got out of the car and headed toward the courts. One boy, about 10 years old, recognized him instantly.

"Check it out! King Lawler!"

In seconds, Lawler was surrounded by about two dozen

ON THE ROAD

with
CRAIG PETERS

kids. A few asked for autographs, while a few others had headlocks they wanted to try out on Lawler. Patient and friendly, Lawler spent about a half-hour joking around with them before getting to the point of his visit: alcohol and drugs. And for the next 10 minutes, Lawler spoke to the kids about staying drug-free, the dangers of alcohol, and the number of deaths caused each year by drugs and booze.

I was most impressed by the fact that he didn't come off heavy-handed, and in fact the kids paid close attention to him. They *listened*, probably more than they'd listen to a parent or a schoolteacher.

"And that's the point," Lawler said as we got back in his car and headed back to his home. "Kids are bombarded with messages from all over. Television, records, movies, radio, you name it. Parents and teachers, to some kids, just aren't cool. But I'm a hero to some of them, a role model. A celebrity, and I take that celebrity very seriously."

"Which is a large part of why I had to rethink my rulebreaking stance," he continued. "How can I have this concern for kids on the one hand, go out and talk to them and tell them how they ought to behave, then go in the ring and—well, you know what I did in the ring. I realized it's not right. The kids are the future of this

country, and we ought to make them our number-one priority. And that's what I'm doing from now on."

Ironically, Lawler himself had a flirtation with alcoholism back in 1985, when he promised he'd win a world title by the end of the year—and failed to follow through.

"That was scary," Lawler said. "I fell into a depression and almost didn't crawl out. There were a few times when I thought my career would be finished, but I was lucky. I avoided falling into that pit of addiction. I want to help some kids avoid that pit, too."

Lawler paused a moment, deep in thought. When he spoke again, he smiled.

"If I can help just one kid—just one—avoid being sucked down into the pit, it's all worth it. Hey—if everyone reading this magazine could help just one kid sidestep drugs and booze, and avoided it themselves, imagine what kind of a difference it would make."

"It's a lot to ask of one individual," Lawler concluded, "but multiply that by hundreds of thousands—*man*, what an effect we'd all have!" □



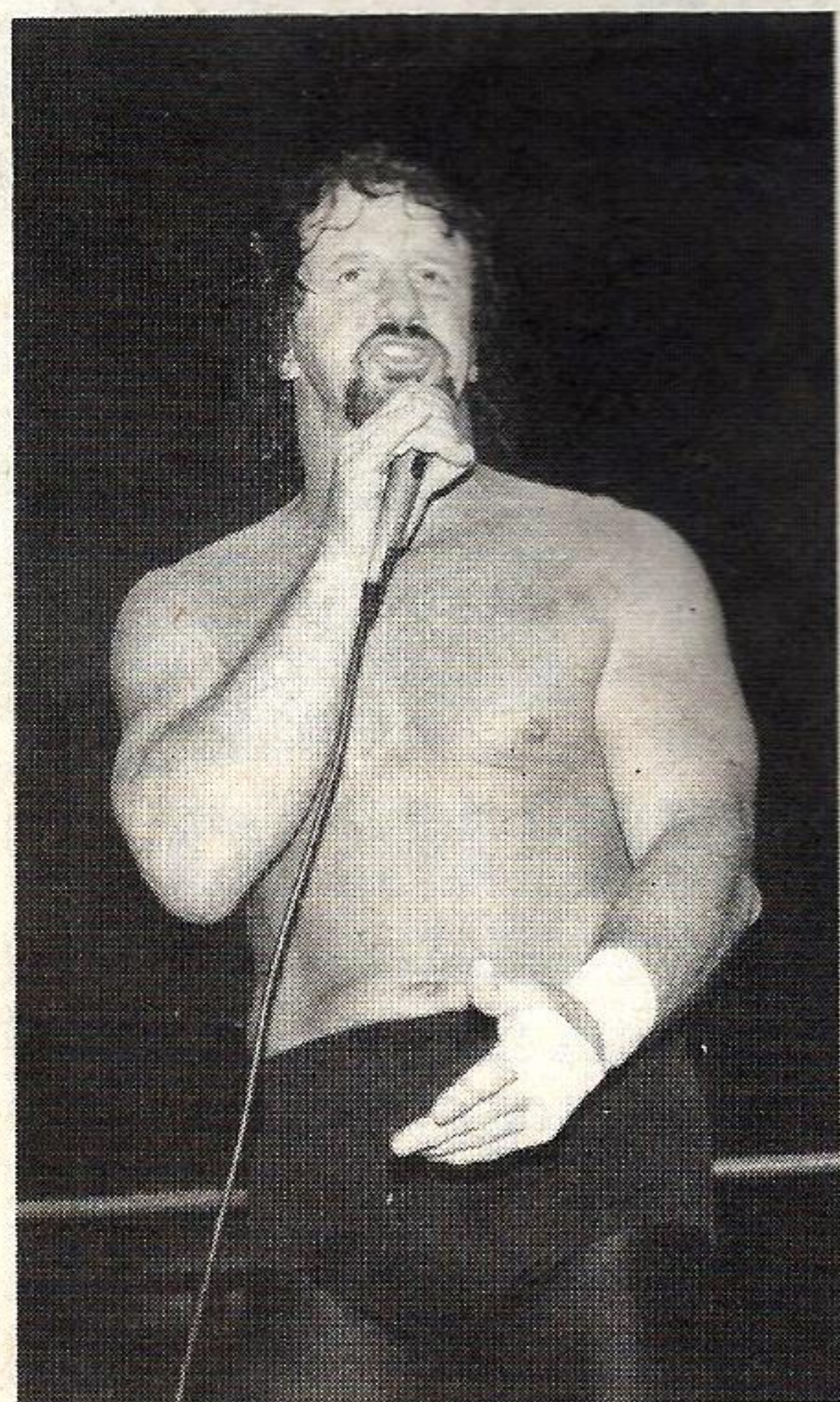
Jerry Lawler

NAMES MAKI

ALTHOUGH HE ANNOUNCED his retirement several months ago, veteran **Terry Funk** has returned to the ring. The manic rulebreaker appeared on an independent card in Pennsauken, New Jersey, on June 23, taking on wildman **Stan Hansen** in a violent "Death Island" match. This rugged bout proved that Funk was still as competitive as ever.

Funk battled Hansen on an island that was separated from the mainland by a wooden bridge. The pair of Texans brawled both in and out of the water, battering each other with anything that wasn't nailed down. Funk won the match by disqualification when Hansen refused to stop beating Funk with his cowbell.

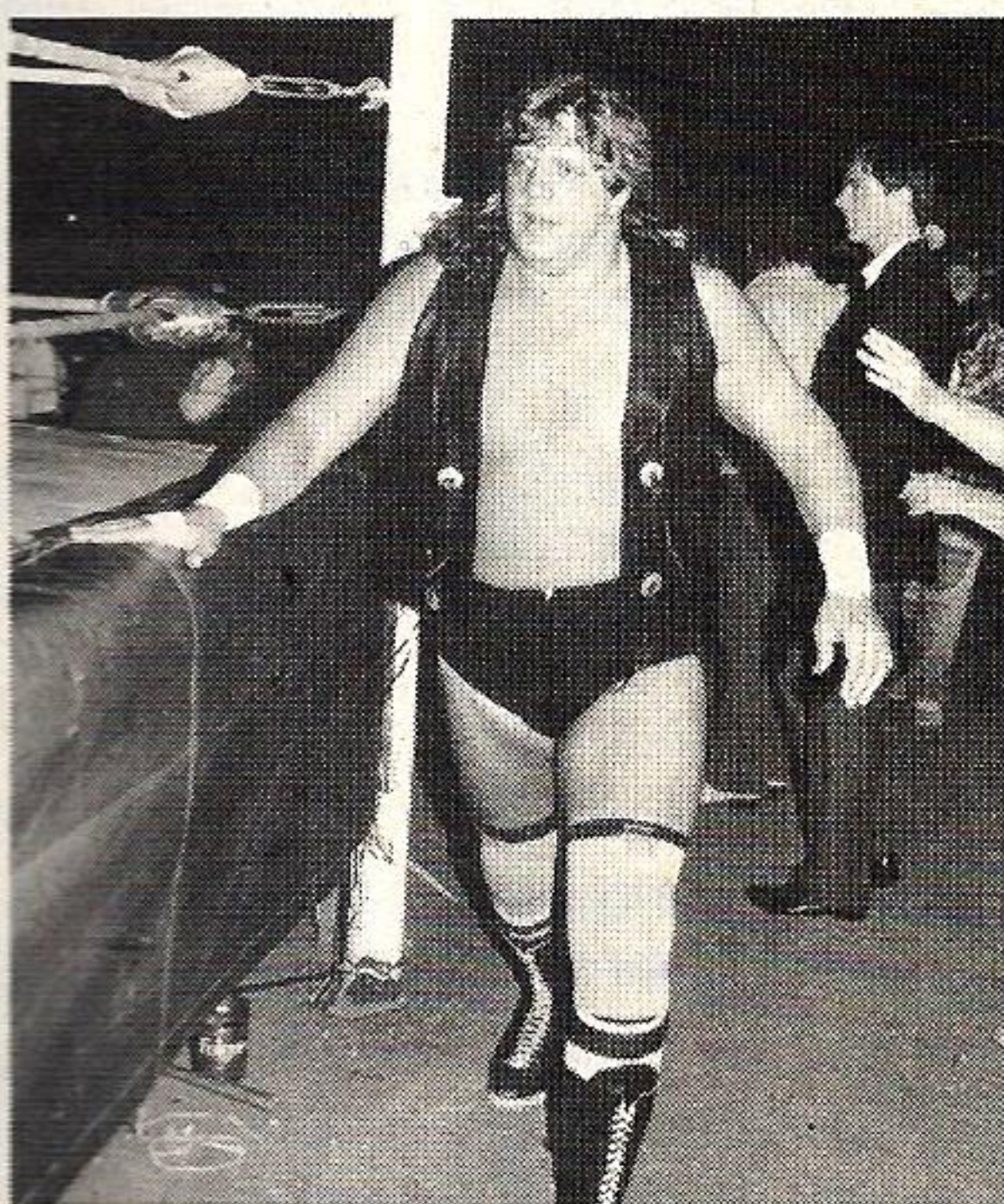
"I know I said I would never wrestle again just a few months ago," said Funk, who also is busy working as a fight scene coordinator for Sylvester Stallone's next movie, *Rocky V*. "But



TERRY FUNK

as they say, never say never again. I proved I'm still one of the top competitors in the world by beating Hansen. Now, I'm looking for more matches, 'cause there's no doubt that I'm still championship material."

Hansen, meanwhile, has been all over the globe. In the Orient, he's been defending his "triple crown" of Japanese titles—the All-Japan, PWF, and United National titles—that he won from **Terry Gordy** on June 8 in Chiba, Japan. At the same time, he's



TERRY GORDY

been wrestling on independent cards and in the NWA, where it looks like a feud with **Tommy Rich** is about to break loose. "Wildfire" appeared at ringside to prevent Hansen from savaging preliminary wrestlers during several television tapings.

"Rich has a lot of nerve sticking his nose in my business," screamed the always-crazed Hansen. "He had no right to stop me from doin' what I do best, and that's bustin' people up. Now, I'm putting out a challenge to that yellow dog. Let's see if that has-been has enough guts to get his butt kicked right and proper."

Former USWA champion **Jerry**



RONALD P. GOSSETT

Lawler has fired **Ronald P. Gossett** as his manager! "The King" and the rotund Gossett got into a locker room fight on June 18 at Memphis' Mid-South Coliseum. Lawler had just lost the title to **The Snowman**, mainly because special referee **Leon Spinks** refused to count several pinfall attempts by Lawler. After the match, Gossett blasted Lawler for not using illegal tactics, and Lawler responded by punching the blubbery Gossett and breaking his jaw.

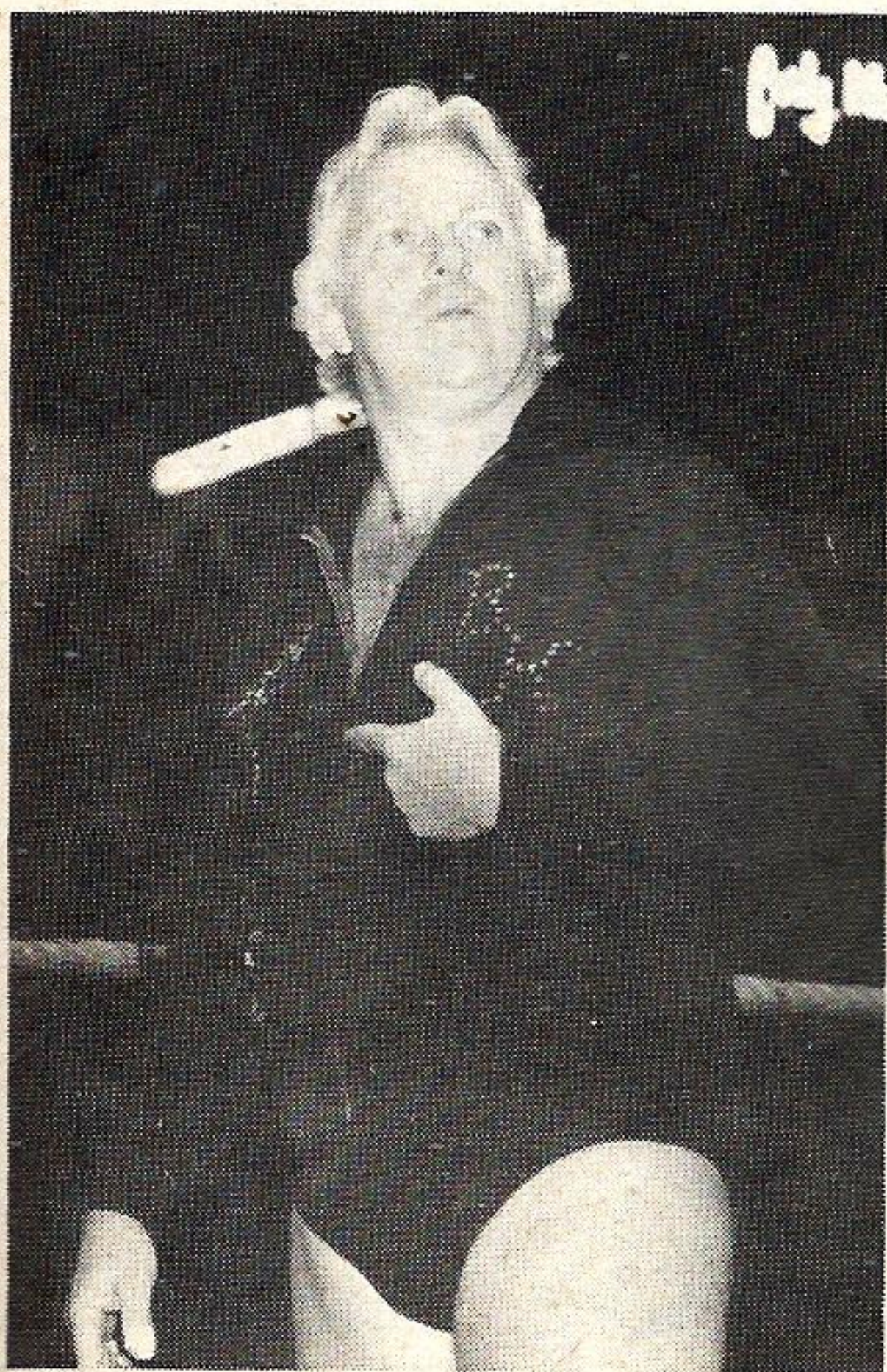
"Lawler's not half the man I thought he was," said Gossett, who announced he was leaving the USWA. "If he really wanted to beat Snowman, all he had to do was use the tactics that I've taught him. Well, Lawler won't listen to me anymore—the only people he's listening to are the fans. Who needs him?"

In other USWA news, 20-year-old **Chris Von Erich** made his pro wrestling debut on June 22 in Dallas, defeating **Percy Pringle** ... PWF

champion **Steve Keirn** defeated **Robert Fuller** in a loser-leave-town match on June 26 in Tampa . . . AWA World champion **Larry Zbyszko** spent two weeks in Hawaii and Guam, defending his title against **Don Muraco** and **Sgt. Slaughter**. Slaughter reportedly is in negotiations to return to the WWF.

The NWA returns to the Byrne Meadowlands Arena in East Rutherford, New Jersey, on August 24. The last card there in April drew almost 10,000 fans, which ranks as one of the largest crowds in the metropolitan-New York area this year.

Rick Rude worked his way into contention for **The Ultimate Warrior's** WWF World title, but a torn tricep muscle kept him out of action for several weeks. Rude's manager **Bobby Heenan**, couldn't substitute **Curt Hennig**, since "Mr. Perfect" was busy defending his Intercontinental title. For some reason, Heenan teamed with **Haku** in handicap match-



BOBBY HEENAN

es against the Warrior. The result? Total embarrassment for Heenan, who was humiliated in every match! Why does the overweight manager insist on wrestling, particularly against superstars like the Warrior?

In other WWF news, **The Road Warriors**, now being billed as **The**



THE LEGION OF DOOM

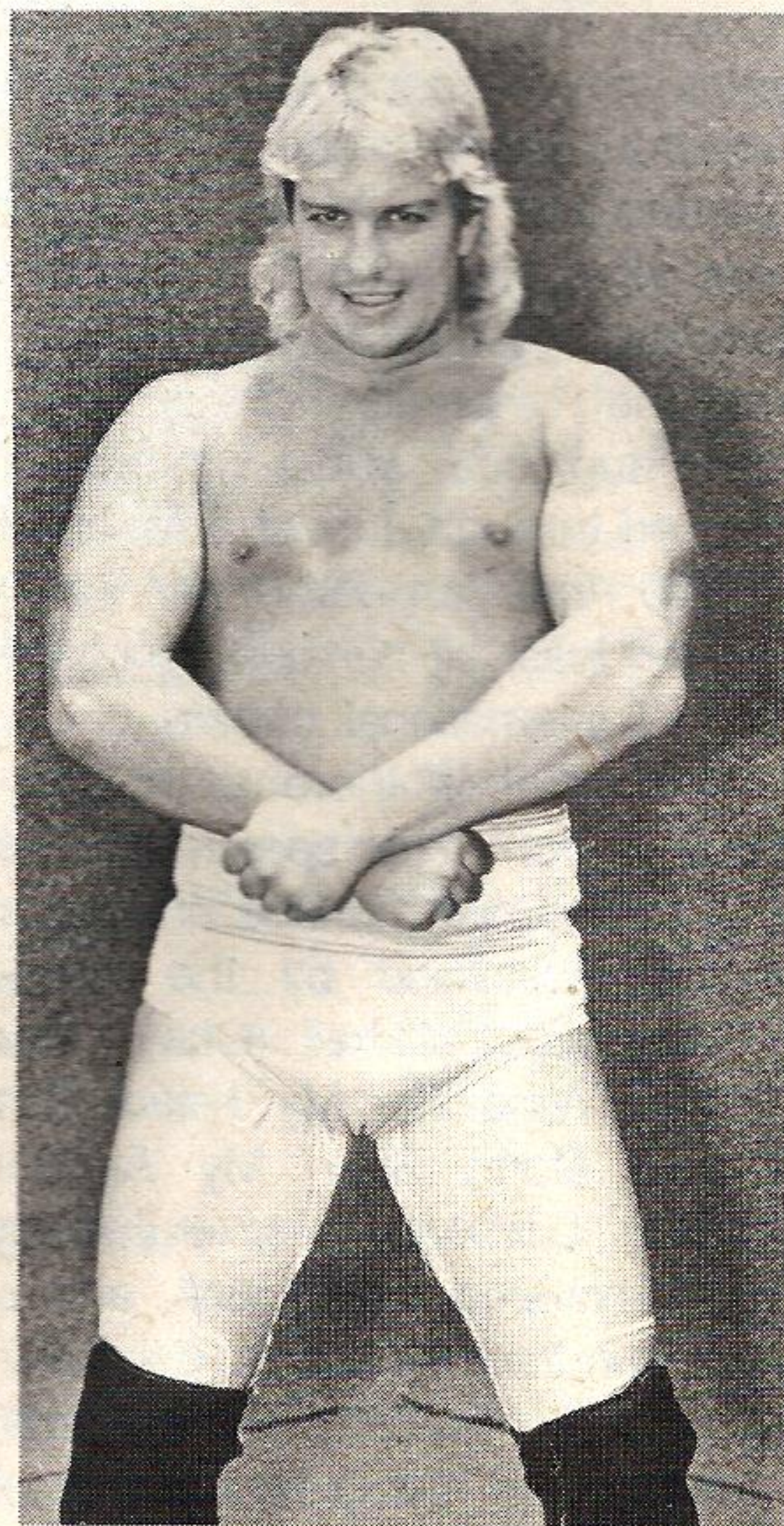
Legion of Doom, made their federation debuts on June 25 in Dayton, Ohio, easily dispatching of the team of **Black Bart** and **Tom Stone** . . . The World Wrestling Council has stripped **Manny Fernandez** of the Puerto Rican title after the "Raging Bull" failed to defend the belt for several months . . . The popular duo of **Joey Maggs** and **Rex King** won the USWA tag team title from **Tony Anthony** and **Tom Burton** on June 25 in Memphis.

Where's **Norman** been lately? After being brutalized by **The Four Horsemen**, the affable big man went home to Skandia, Michigan, for a period of rest and recuperation. Now, Norman is back with a new name—**Truckin' Norman**—and an entirely new image. "I'm wearing my daddy's trucking

outfit and hat now," said Norman, whose father died a few months ago. "He was the greatest man I've ever known, so now I'm dedicating my career to him. I've got new drive, and a new spirit. People said I was crazy in the past, but nobody's going to say that about me anymore. And I'm going to prove I have what it takes to become a champion in the NWA."

Scott Braddock and **Jeff Gaylord** have formed a new tag team, **The Wild Things**, that's tearing up Tennessee . . . Pacific Northwest star **Johnathan Holliday** has a featured role in an NBC-TV movie, **Cops And Robbers**, which is scheduled to be aired later this year. The film also stars **Ed Asner** and **Ray Sharkey**.

That's all for now, fans. See you at the matches! □



JOHNATHAN HOLLIDAY

THE INSIDER

By Eddie Ellner

[The opinions expressed in "The Insider" are those of Eddie Ellner alone, and do not necessarily represent the opinions of anyone else on the staff of this magazine.]

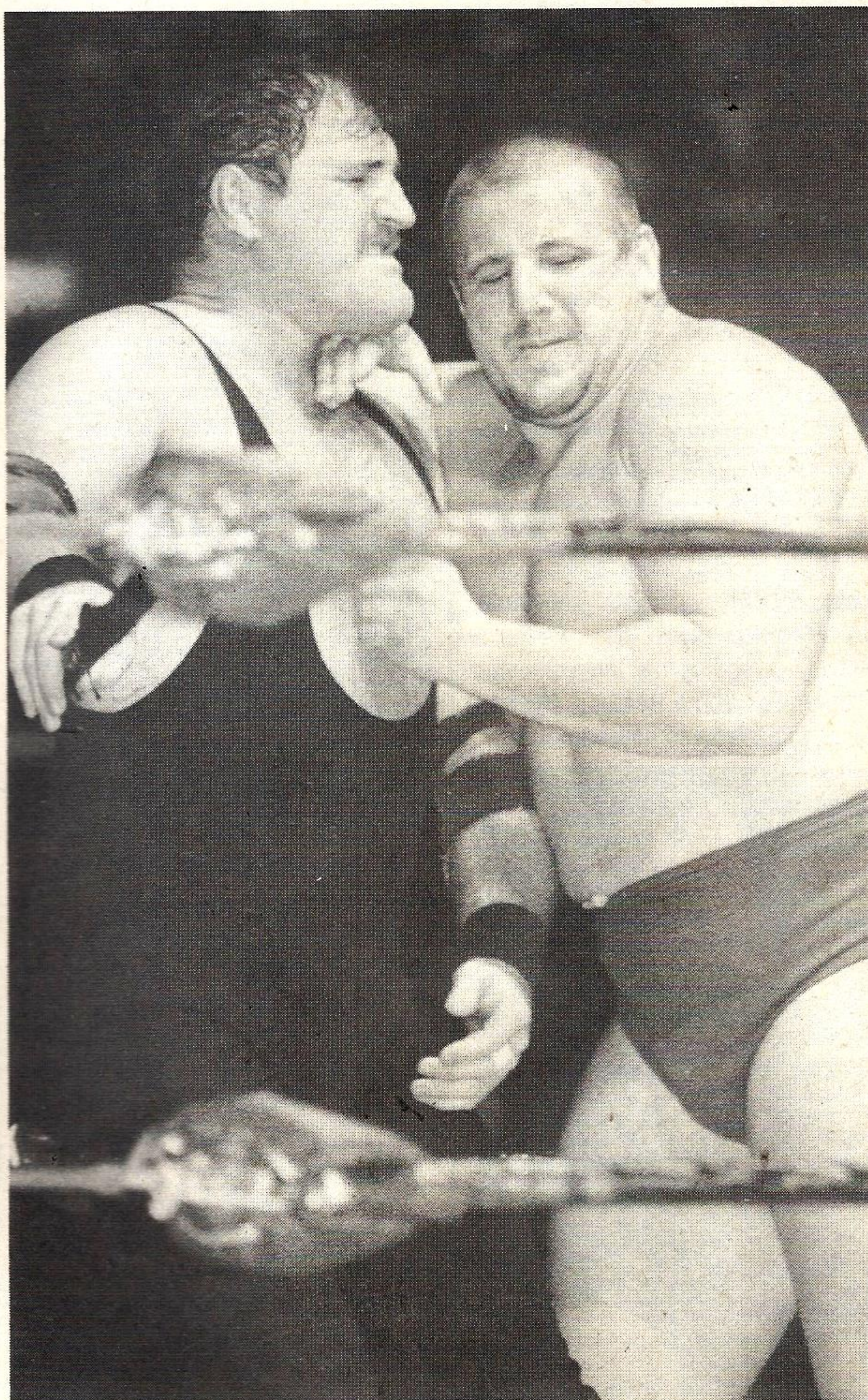
WHERE HAVE YOU gone, Sgt. Slaughter? A nation turns its lonely eyes to you ... woo, woo woo ...

What's that you say, Mr. Gorbachev? Uncle Sam ain't scared of you no more? No more war ... woah, woah, woah.

Notes from Las Vegas: As part of his act, Russian comedian Yakov Smirnoff says that his jokes are so good they're worth about 20 years apiece inside Russia. In Cold War America, the bit was worth its weight in nervous laughter. Today, the line received marginal response from a Tropicana audience (where Smirnoff is booked through July at a reported 60,000 American dollars per week) not the least bit nervous about the current international climate.

And what is there to be nervous about? The spectre of the evil communist menace no longer exists, destroyed by the handshake-happy Mikhail (Okay, You Spilled Wine On My Head, But Please Don't Stain My Armani Jacket) Gorbachev, a crumbling graffiti-covered Berlin wall, and a few hundred thousand democracy-crazed Eastern Europeans. Communism has gone the way of hula-hoops and pet rocks—good

(Continued on page 52)



In his own way, Sgt. Slaughter was defending America when he fought Russia's Nikolai Volkoff. Now Volkoff himself is fighting for America.

A ON ASSIGNMENT

BY LIZ HUNTER

ONE OF THE biggest disappointments of the year thus far is without a doubt Billy Jack Haynes turning against his fans in the Pacific Northwest.

I recall one very special evening I spent with Billy. It was in a small night spot in Tampa during his 1984 days in Florida. We sipped cappuccino and talked until the proverbial wee hours of the morning. But what made the night so special was Billy's honesty.

He spoke of his deep love and respect for his diabetic father, how he was impressed that his dad never complained about the daily insulin shots he had to take. He spoke with love of his Uncle Red, who lived with his family almost all the time while Billy was growing up.

Tears welled in his eyes as he recounted the story of how his Uncle Red was killed in a truck accident in April 1969. He could barely tell me how, just weeks later, his mother became despondent over Red's death and fell into a coma and died from a brain tumor. His mighty body shuddered as he told me of his father's vows to kill himself because he couldn't handle the multiple family tragedies.

Billy couldn't handle them, either. He quit school, started hanging around the wrong people, and wound up in the Army. After going AWOL, he found a low-paying janitorial job and started gambling. He wound up in jail after being found guilty of a first-degree assault charge; he received a five-



When Billy Jack Haynes feuded with Rip Oliver in 1985, Haynes was hearing the cheers and Oliver was being booed. In Portland in 1990, however, the opposite is true.

year sentence.

"Yeah, so what?" Billy growled recently with a bitter sense of disgust. "What's past is past, and I just don't want to talk about it. Can't do nothing about the past, but you *can* do something about the present, right, Lizzie? And I'm doing something. I'm doing plenty."

What he's doing is battling Rip and Larry Oliver, a man and his son who, until very recently, were close friends to Haynes. They hope to be close friends again someday.

"I don't know what the deal is with Billy," Rip said. "You know, of course, that there was that inci-
(Continued on page 54)

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Do you have a favorite wrestler who has left your area? Are you wondering where he is today? Then this special column is just for you. Each month we will update the whereabouts of four current or former wrestlers



DICK MURDOCH

"Dirty" Dick, long a favorite of NWA fans, is now wrestling for the Frontier Martial Arts federation in Japan. The veteran is undefeated against tough opponents such as former AWA star Kevin Kelly, and says he has no plans to re-

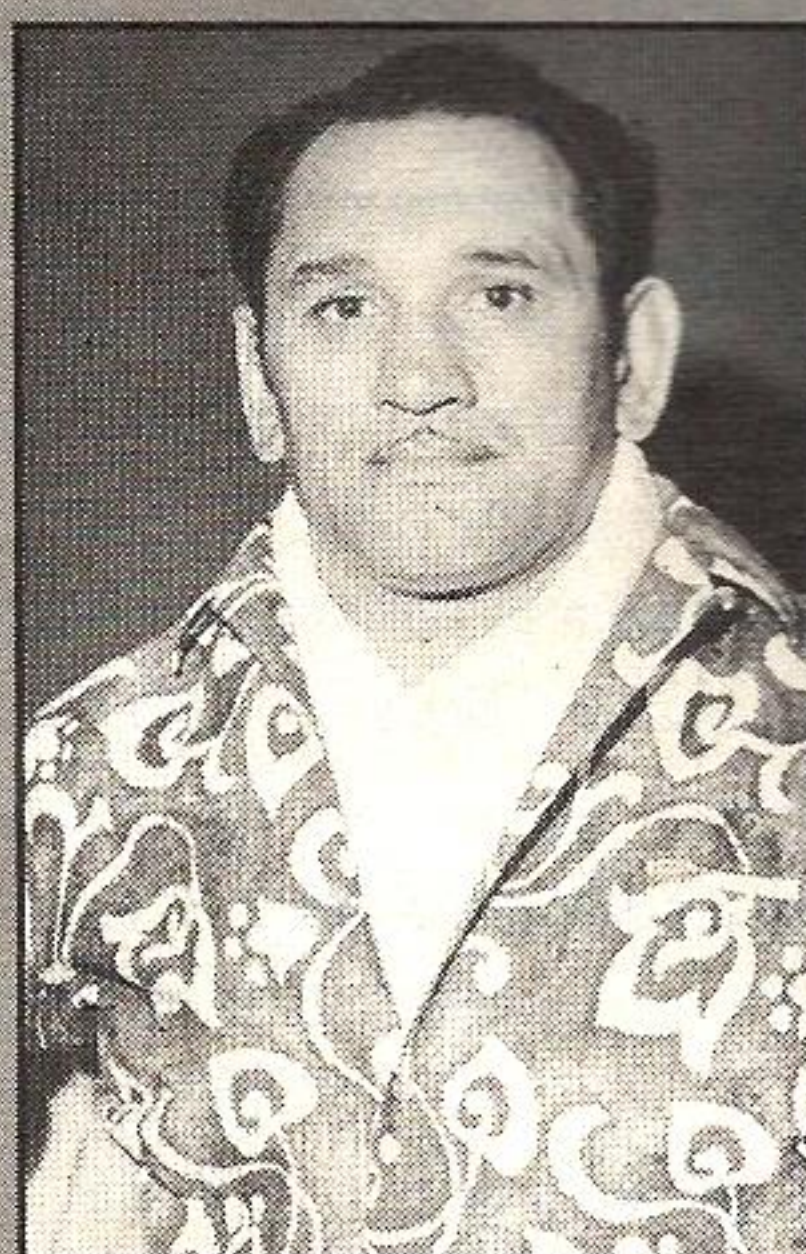
turn to the U.S. "I can't get a fair shot at any of the titles back home," said Murdoch, also famous for his Texas Outlaw tag team with Dusty Rhodes. "Now, all I want is to become the most famous champion in the Orient."



JERRY BLACKWELL

After spending most of his time in the Georgia All-Star area for the past several years, the 474-pound "Crusher" is now semi-retired. The popular big man does manage to wrestle several times per

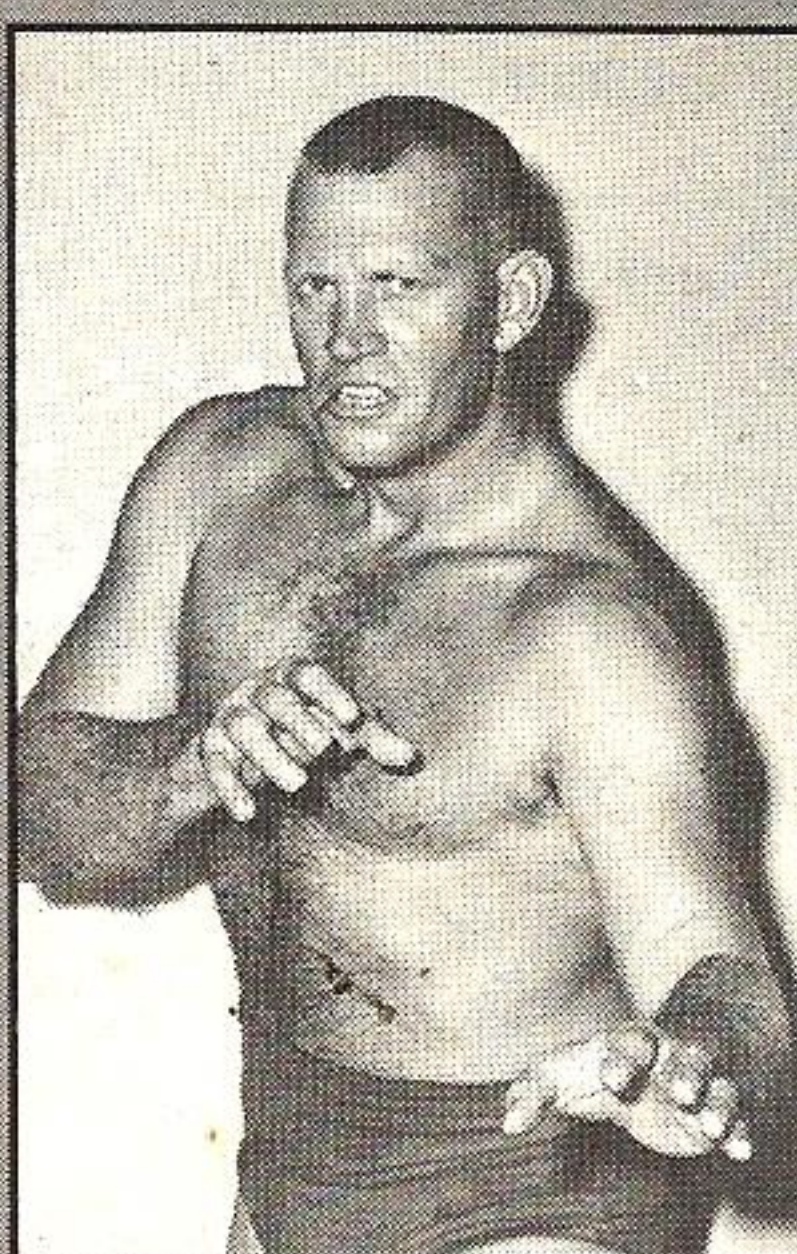
month for independent federations in the Georgia area, but he spends most of his time with his family in an Atlanta suburb. "It's time to slow down," said Blackwell. "Now I'm mixing my loves—family, fishing, and wrestling."



ABE JACOBS

This former New Zealand heavyweight champion began his career in the '50s and competed all the way into the mid-'70s. His "Kiwi roll," a maneuver in which he locked his opponents in a cradle and rolled them repeatedly around the

ring, is still remembered fondly by his legions of fans. Today, Jacobs is retired from the mat wars and works as a manager and instructor at Rick Steamboat's popular gymnasium in Charlotte, North Carolina.



FRITZ VON ERICH

The patriarch of the world-famous Von Erich family is now retired and spending the bulk of his time with his wife, Doris, on their farm in Tyler, Texas. He is also a part-time real estate agent. "I always loved playing Monopoly," laughed

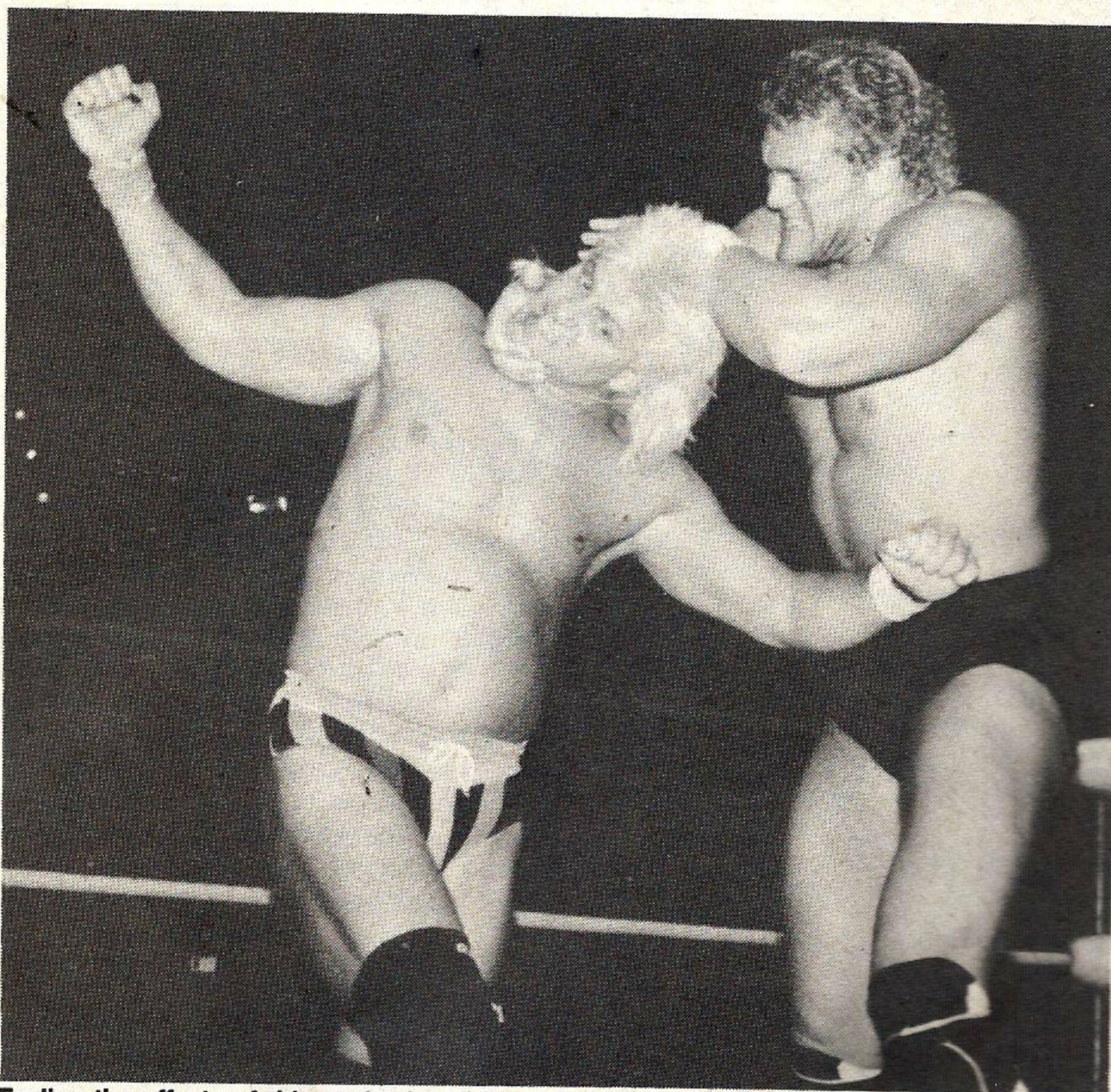
Fritz. "Now I play it for real." The clawhold master also enjoys keeping up with the careers of Kevin, Kerry, and now his youngest son, Chris. "I get prouder of my boys every day," said Fritz.

INSIDE WRESTLING

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CAPSULE PROFILE

SID VICIOUS



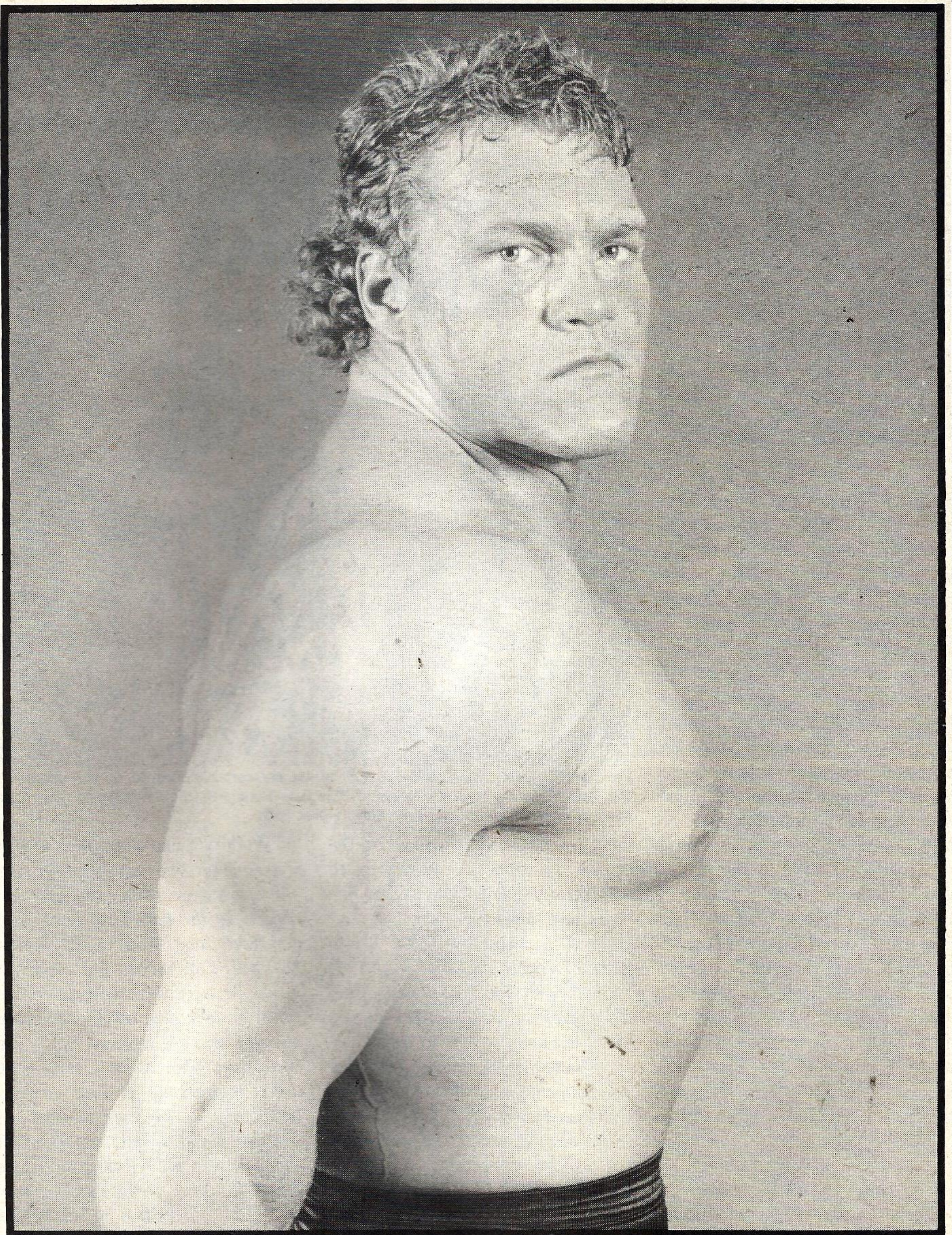
Feeling the effects of this necktwist, Johnny Ace can certainly attest to the viciousness of Sid Vicious. As the newest member of The Four Horsemen, Vicious vows to make that band of rulebreakers greater than they've ever been.

SID VICIOUS IS the newest member of The Four Horsemen, the sport's most notorious band of rulebreakers (*"They couldn't have made a better choice than me!"*) ... At 6'8", 318 pounds, is an uncommon blend of power, speed, and agility (*"I'm a one-of-a-kind athlete"*) ... Became interested in wrestling after he met Randy Savage at a football camp ... First pro bout was a tag team match pitting him and Austin Idol against Jerry Lawler and Nick Bockwinkel; the match ended in a double-disqualification ... With Downtown Bruno as his manager, went to the CWF as the masked Lord Humongous in 1987 (*"I had a lot of surprises in store for that area"*) ... Won the Southeast title from Dan Davis on Christmas Day, 1987 ... Eventually turned against Bruno (*"That was one of the surprises"*) ... Teamed with Shane Douglas to win the Continental tag team title from D.I. Bob Carter and Pvt. Pyle ... Entered the CWA (now part of the USWA) as Sid Vicious in October 1988 (*"It was definitely time to assert my own identity"*) ... Joined Robert Fuller's Stud Stable ... Broke the neck of Jamie Dundee, the 17-year-old son of Bill Dundee, with a Japanese cobra hold (*"Things like that make my name appropriate"*) ... Won

the CWA title from Brian Lee on December 12, 1988 ... After a match with Kerry Von Erich, Kerry called him "the most awesome man I've ever wrestled" ... Lost the CWA title to Wendell Cooley on January 2, 1989 ... Split with The Stud Stable (*"They did nothing for me"*) ... After losing a loser-leave-town match to Fuller, Vicious toured Japan (*"Where I dominated, naturally"*) ... Returned to the CWA as Humongous, Jerry Lawler's secret weapon against The Stud Stable (*"A final bit of revenge"*) ... Soon after arriving in the NWA, Vicious met Teddy Long, who teamed him with Dan Spivey to form The Skyscrapers (*"We were gonna be the greatest ever"*) ... Earned serious consideration

for World tag title shots after scoring several impressive victories over The Midnight Express (*"They should've just handed us the belts"*) ... Suffered a punctured lung in a match against Rick and Scott Steiner, but continued to wrestle for several more weeks ... When he took time off have the lung operated on, Long replaced him in The Skyscrapers with Mark Callous (*"I'll never forgive Long for that; someday he'll pay!"*) ... In April, shocked the wrestling world by returning to action as the newest Horseman (*"My whole career has been about shocking people"*) ... Promises that he will be the key factor in a new decade of Horsemen dominance (*"We will own the '90s—guaranteed!"*)

CAPSULE PROFILE PINUP



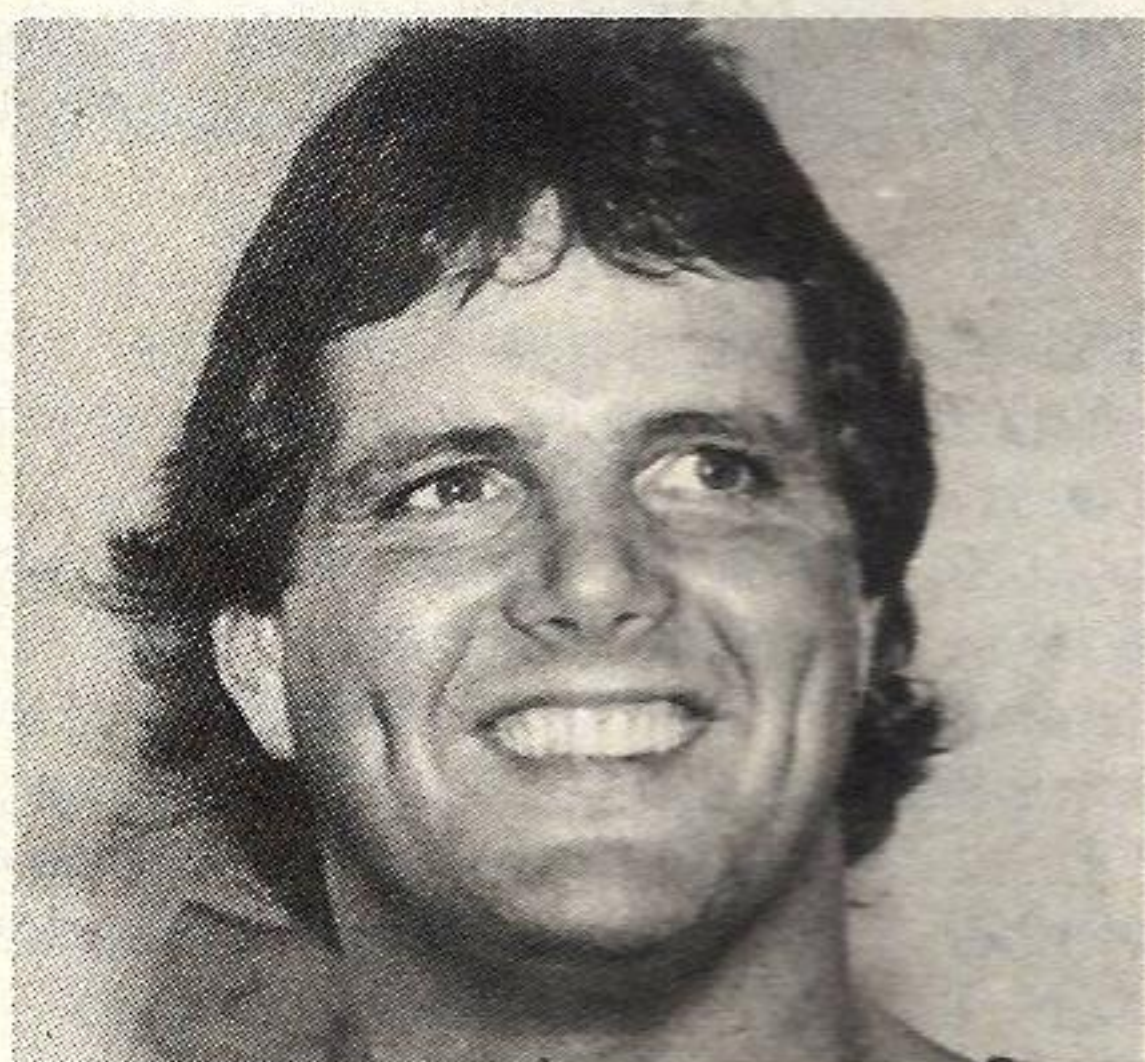
SID VICIOUS

NEWS FROM THE

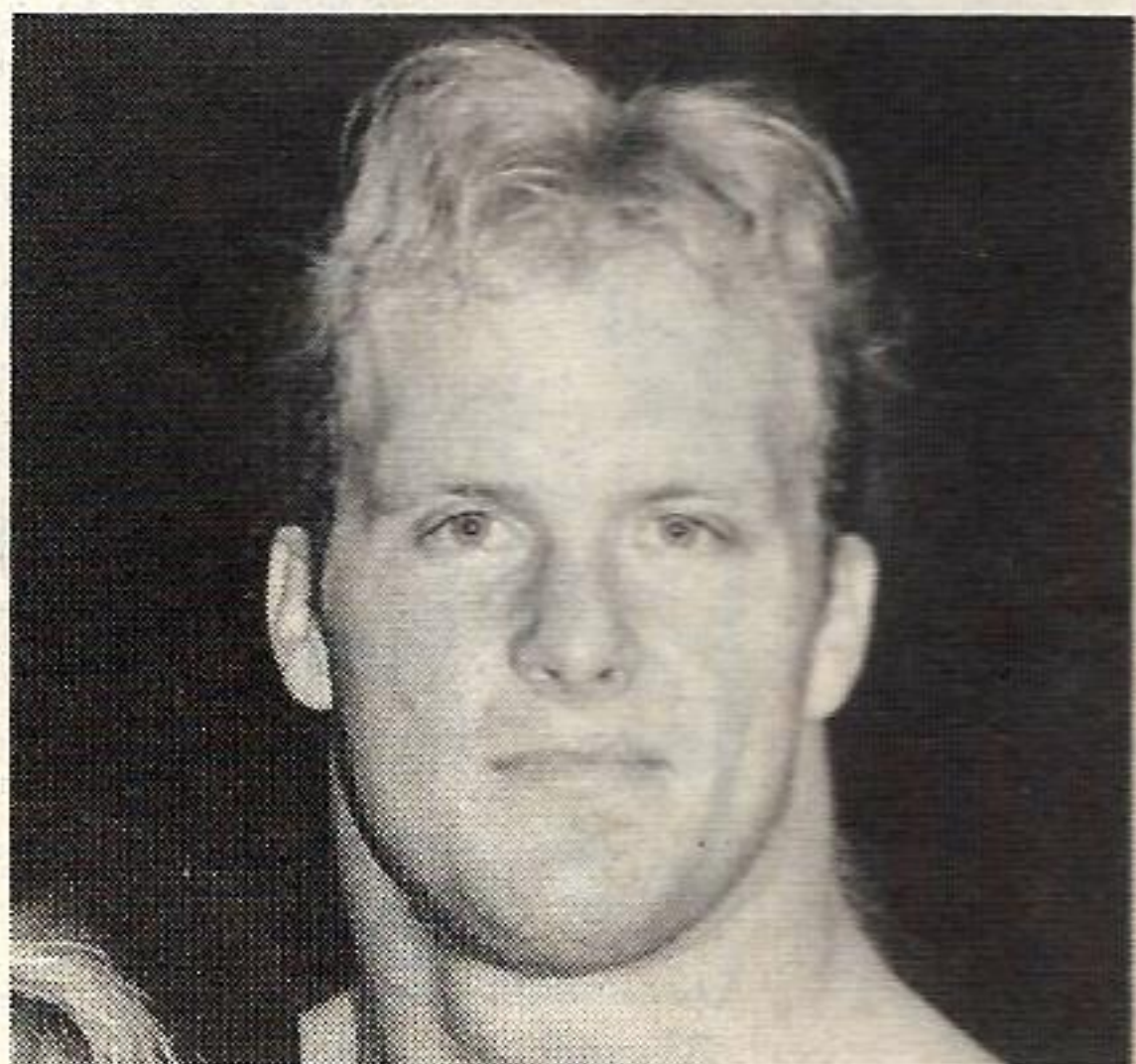
If you would like your area of the country represented in these reports, while also being officially credited with your own by-line, send us reports of the matches you attend. You will have the thrill of seeing your name in an internationally known magazine while at the same time helping to improve the quality of wrestling in your area. So why not give it a try? You will be glad you did!

Send your reports to: Correspondent Editor, Box 48, Rockville Centre, N.Y. 11571

DALLAS, TX By Joyce Dillon

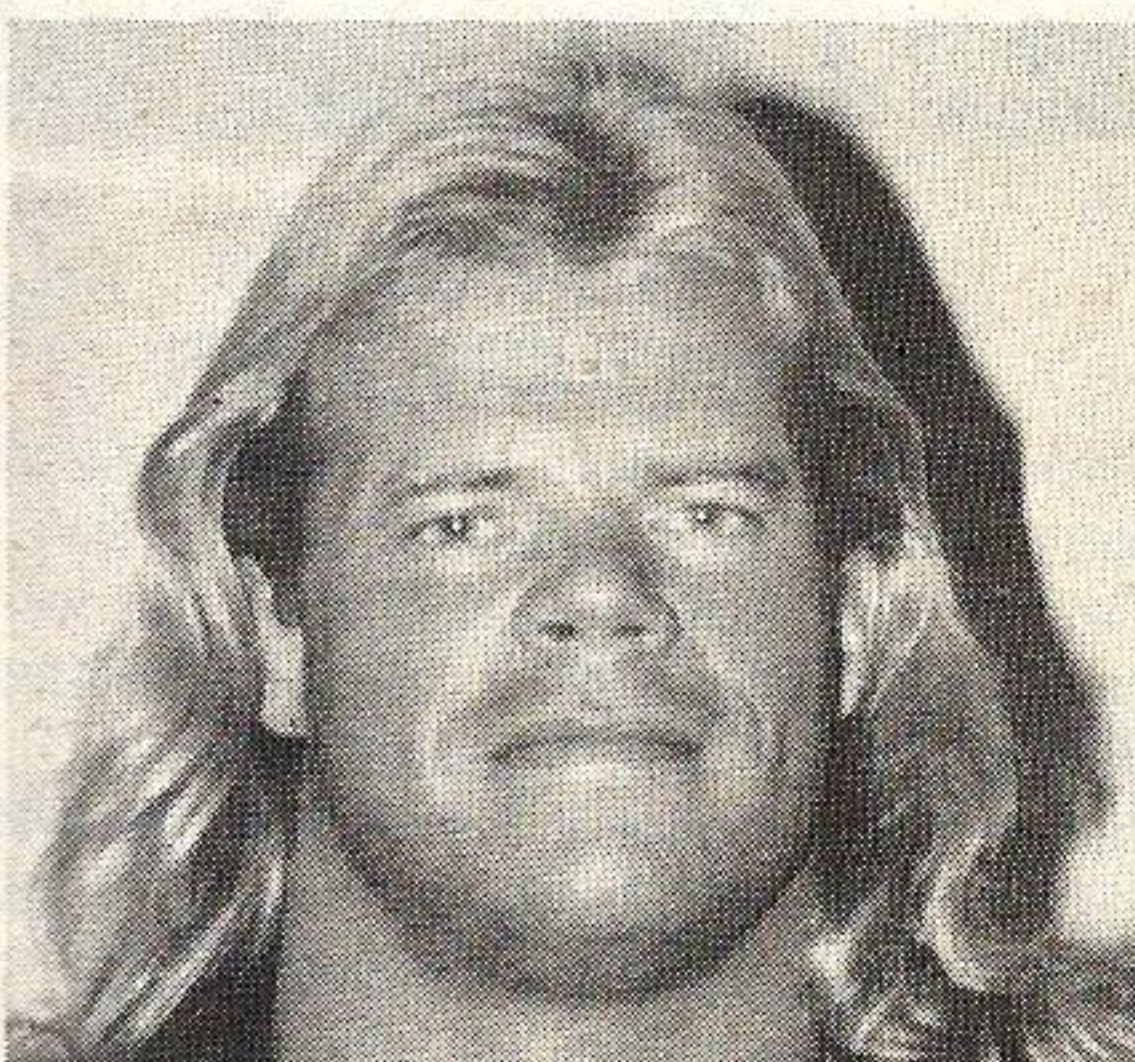


**CHRIS ADAMS
vs.
STEVE AUSTIN**



Before the match, Adams' wife, Toni, got into a scrap with Jeannie, Adams' ex-wife and Austin's valet. USWA official John Brazzel ordered the women back to the dressing room. During the match, Jeannie returned to the ring. After Adams pinned Austin, she threw a chair in the ring, which Austin used to hit Adams. Then Toni came back and hit Jeannie with a kendo stick. Austin got the stick away from Toni and gave it to Jeannie, who used it on Toni and Chris. **OTHER BOUTS:** Kerry Von Erich and Matt Borne were both counted out ... Gary Young pinned Kevin Von Erich ... John Tatum defeated Bill Dundee ... Chico Torres pinned Jimmy James ... Sweet Daddy Falcone & Angel of Death defeated Jeff Jarrett & Billy Travis.

PITTSBURGH, PA By Armand Ciccarelli

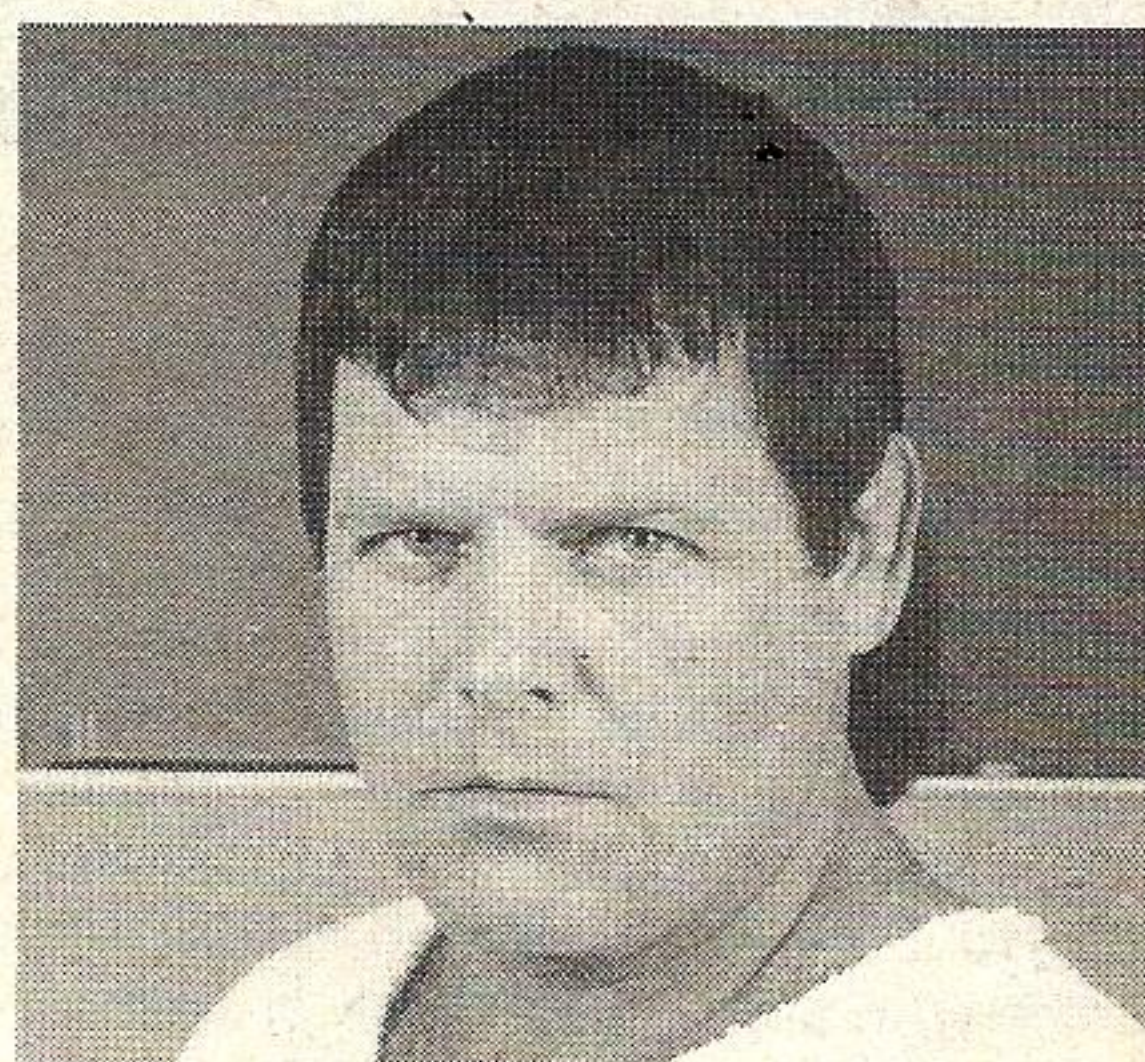


**LEX LUGER
vs.
RIC FLAIR**

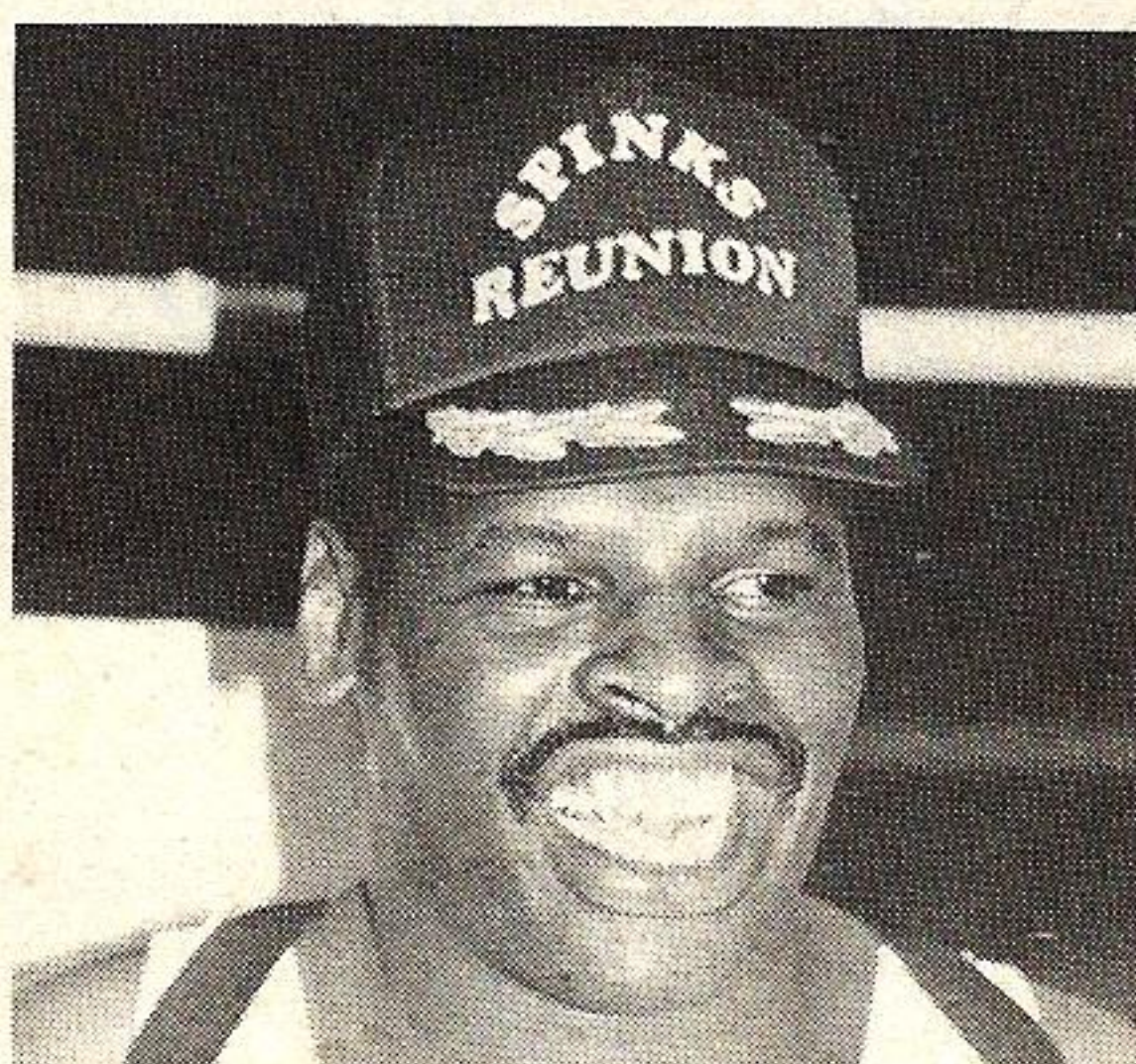


As has happened so many times in the past, the "Total Package" was on the threshold of the NWA championship, only to have fate (in the form of Flair's Horsemen buddies) foil him again. After giving Flair a mighty powerslam, Luger seemed ready to take the match, but Barry Windham interfered, causing Flair's disqualification. Junkyard Dog ran to the ring to prevent The Four Horsemen from ganging up on Luger. **OTHER BOUTS:** The Cheetah Kid defeated Cactus Jack ... Norman beat Ray Apollo ... "Mean" Mark Callous defeated Johnny Ace ... Rick Steiner beat Barry Windham ... Doom defeated Scott Steiner & Robert Gibson.

MEMPHIS, TN By Virginia Hamblin

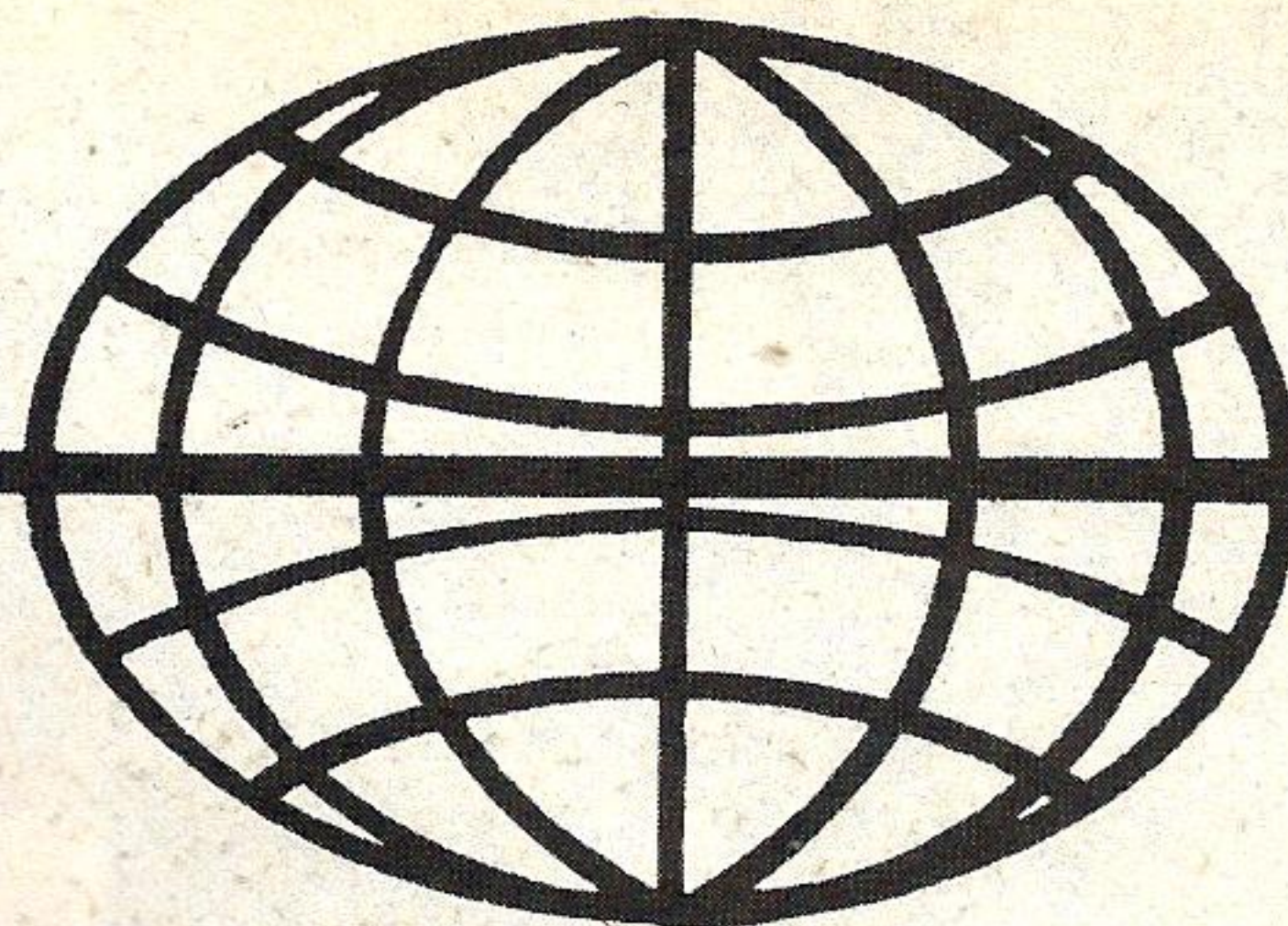


**JERRY LAWLER
vs.
LEON SPINKS**



Former world heavyweight boxing champion Leon Spinks took on Jerry Lawler in a boxer vs. wrestler match. Lawler got tired of Snowman's constant badgering, and left the ring to shove Snowman to the floor. When Lawler returned to the ring, Spinks backed him up into the corner so that Snowman could hold Lawler's arms behind him. When Spinks and Snowman double-teamed Lawler, referee Jerry Calhoun ordered a "technical loss" (disqualification) on Spinks. **OTHER BOUTS:** King Cobra beat The Inhuman ... Jeff Gaylord downed T.D. Steel ... Scott Braddock defeated Ben Jordan ... Joey Maggs downed Ken Wayne ... Maggs also won a battle royal to determine an opponent for The Snowman ... Snowman beat Maggs ... Bill Dundee beat Tony Anthony.

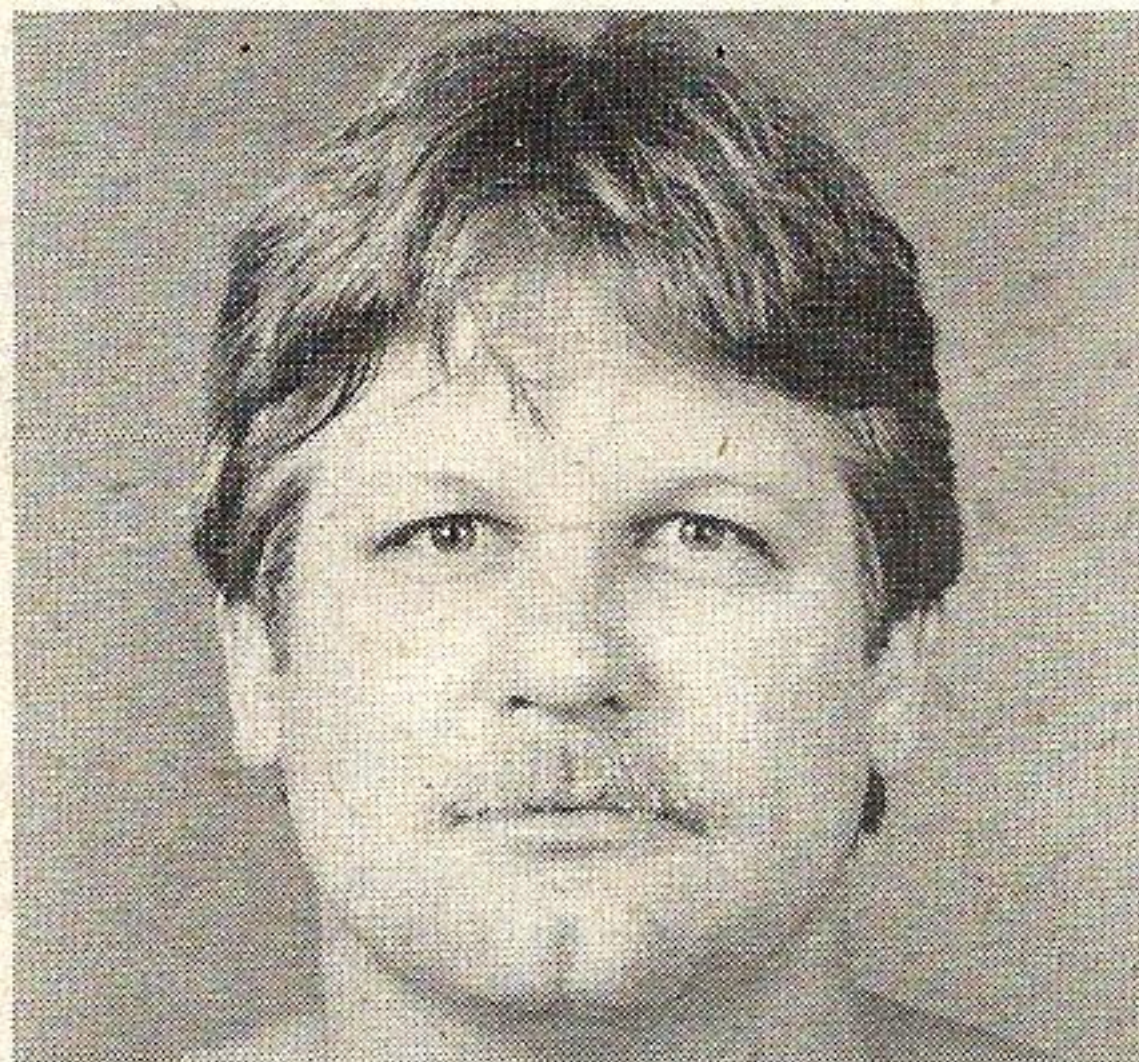
WRESTLING CAPITALS



PENNSAUKEN, NJ By Alan Raskin



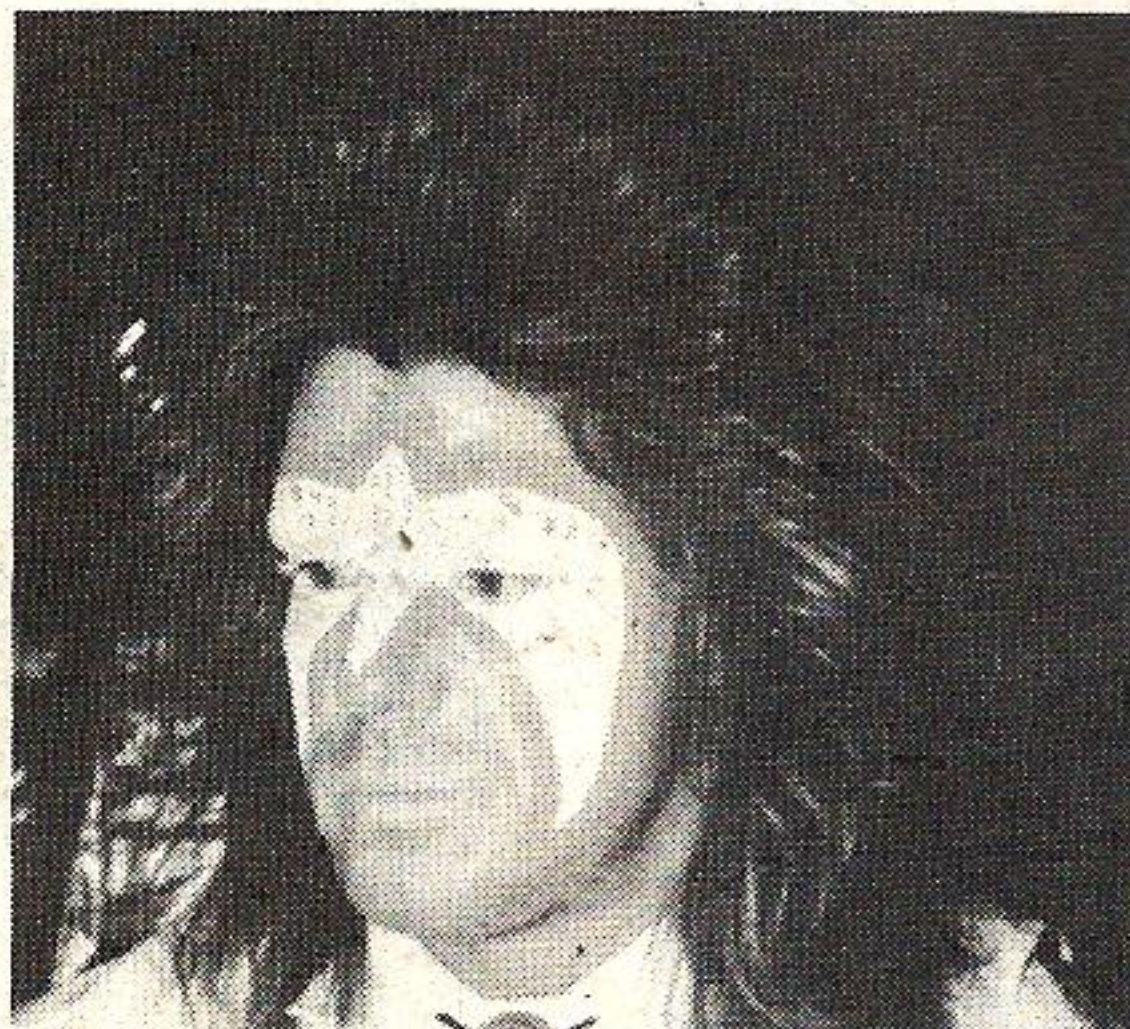
**TERRY FUNK
vs.
STAN HANSEN**



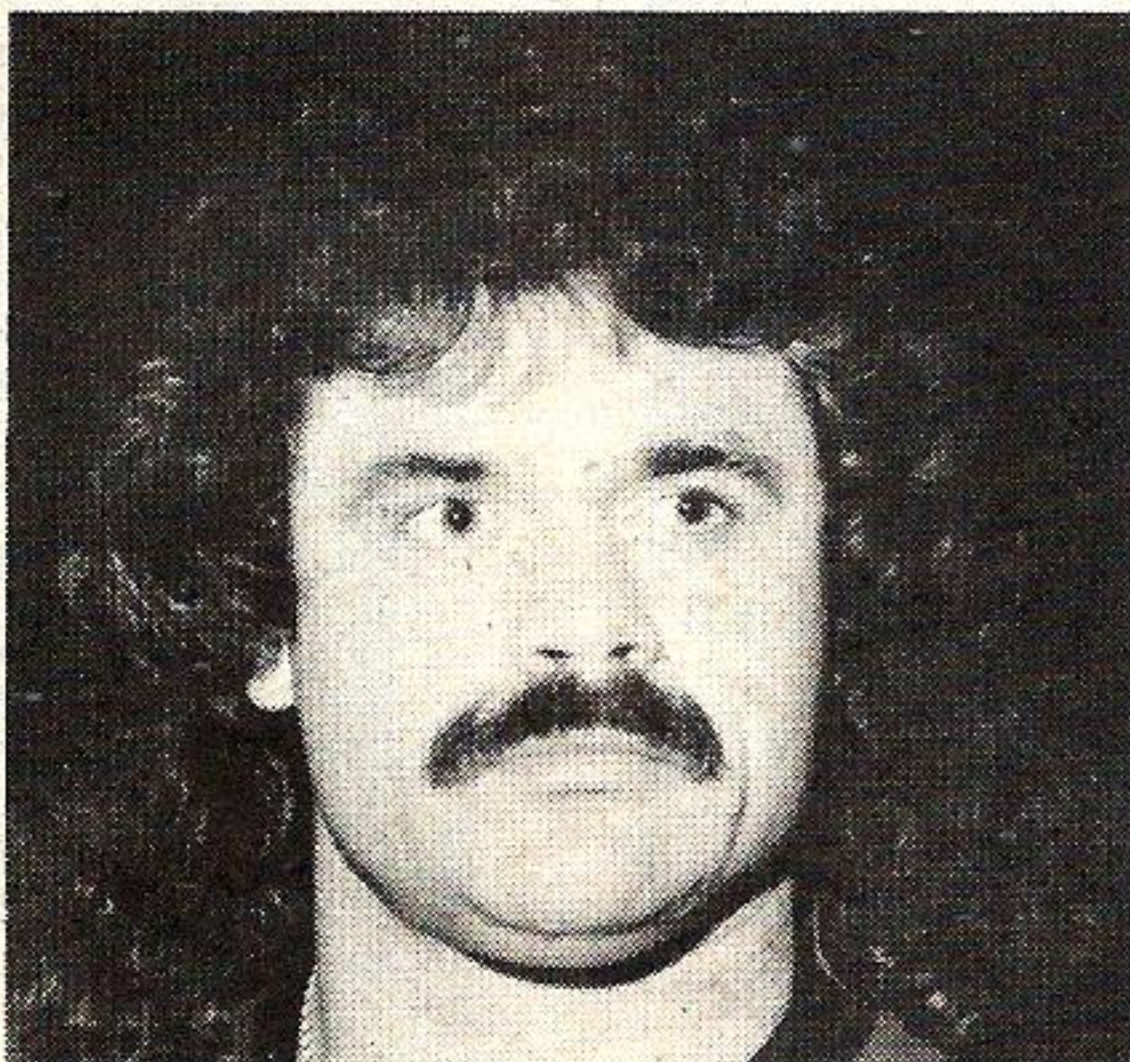
Funk returned to the ring for a "Death Island" match at Cooper River Park. The island was separated from the mainland by a wooden bridge. Hansen dominated the match, beating Funk viciously with a cowbell. Hansen even kneedropped and suplexed Funk into the river. To save himself, Funk threw mud in Hansen's eyes. Eventually, Hansen was disqualified for use of the cowbell.

OTHER BOUTS: Chris Candito beat Jungle Jim McPherson ... The Pit Bull Express defeated Gunner Garlitz & Savage ... Misty Blue Simmes defeated Linda Dallas ... Little Louie beat Tiger Jackson ... Golden Phoenix beat Joe Savoldi ... Ken Patera defeated Hoss.

LANDOVER, MD By Ray Ney



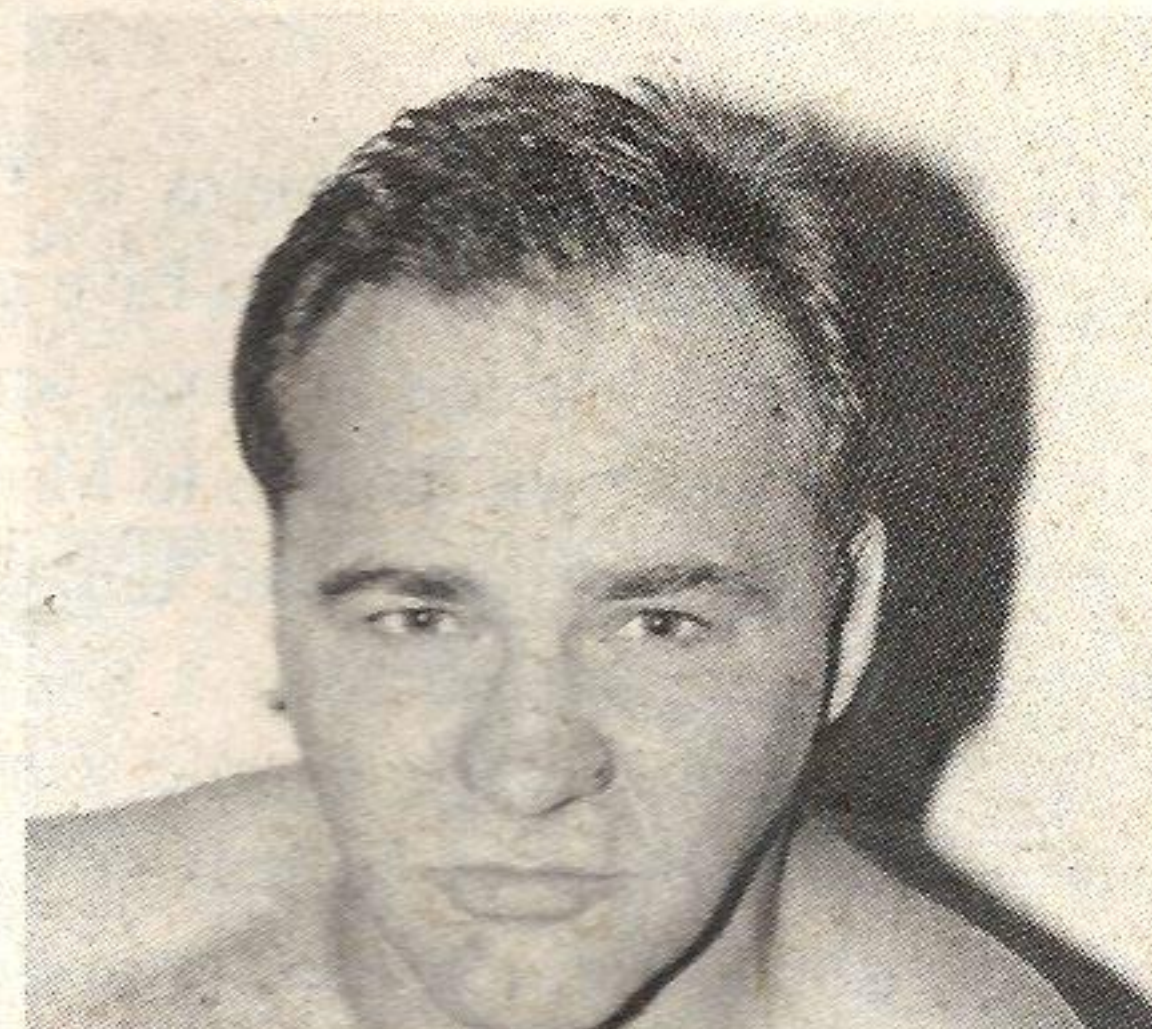
**THE ULTIMATE WARRIOR
vs.
RICK RUDE**



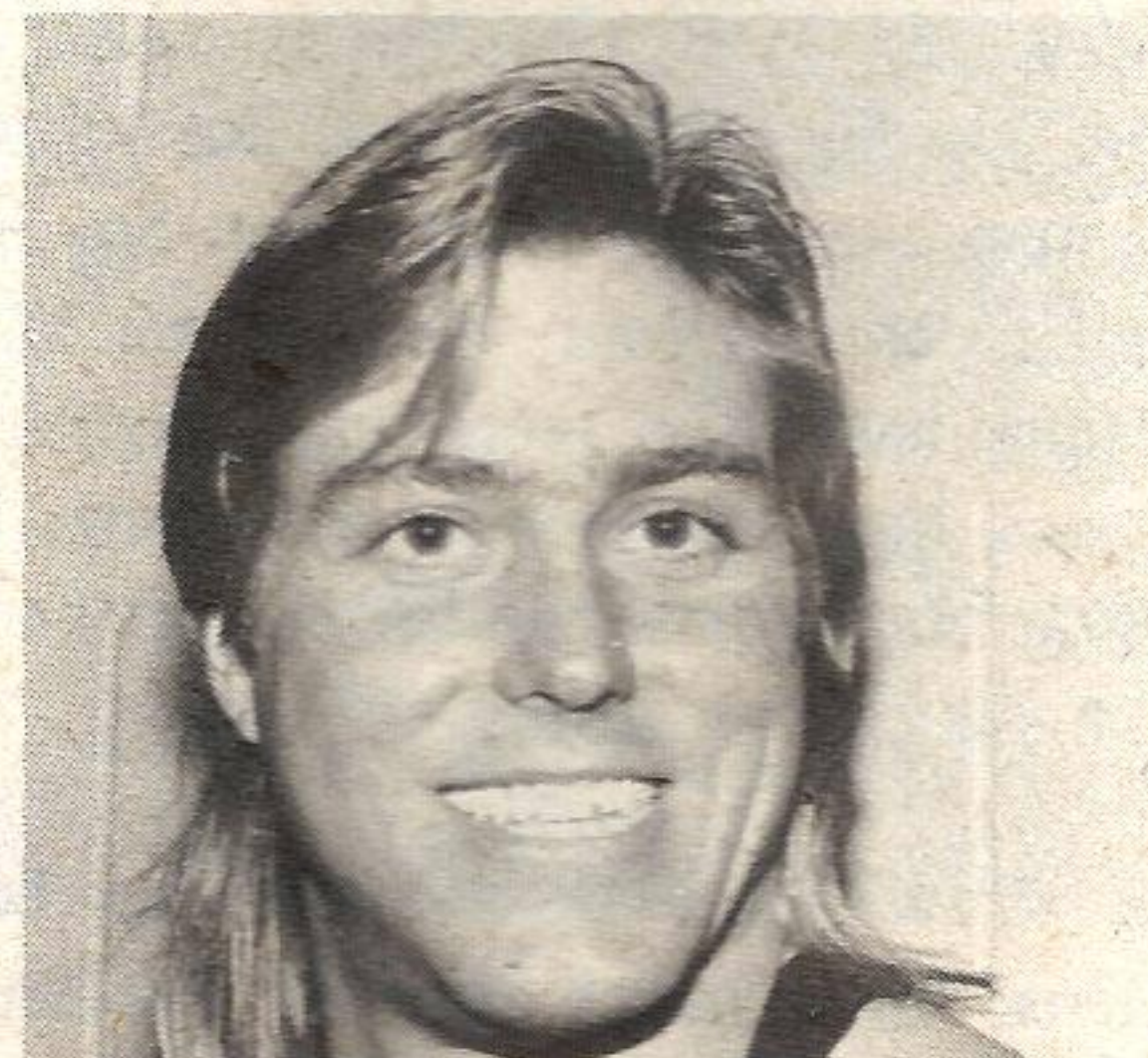
Rude was accompanied to the ring by Bobby Heenan, but the manager was of little help. Warrior stormed the ring like a madman, hitting Rude with chairs and the timekeeper's table. Rude battled back somewhat, but the effects of the champion's early attack lingered. Warrior took over seemingly when he wanted to and pinned Rude with a big splash.

OTHER BOUTS: Hillbilly Jim pinned Black Bart ... Haku pinned Brady Boone ... The Barbarian pinned Jimmy Snuka ... The Bushwhackers defeated The Honky Tonk Man & Greg Valentine by disqualification ... Big Bossman pinned Ted DiBiase ... Brutus Beefcake defeated Curt Hennig by countout.

HINCKLEY, MN By Frank Martinez

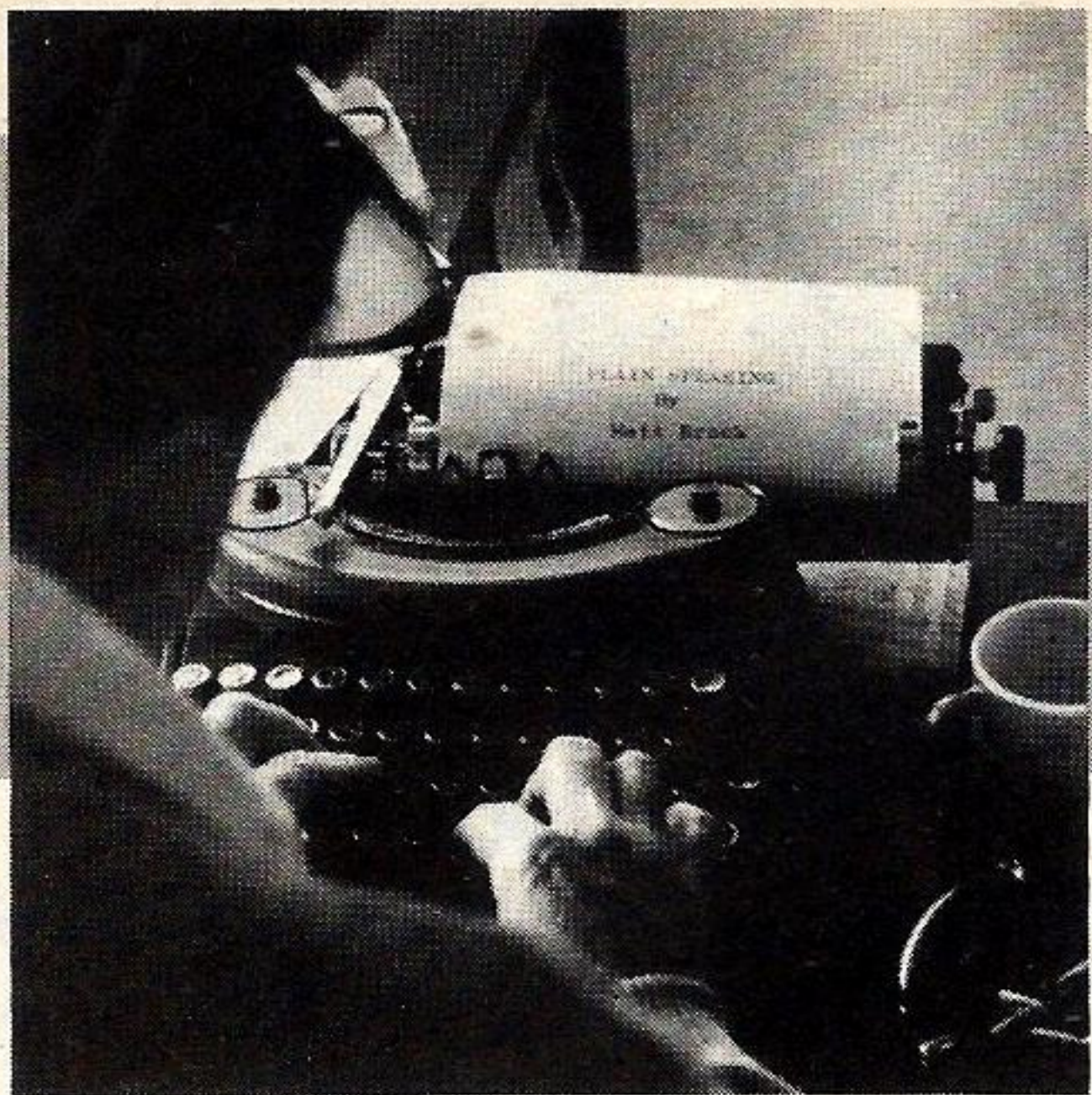


**LARRY ZBYSZKO
vs.
TOMMY JAMMER**



Surprisingly, Zbyszko consented to put his AWA World title on the line against the young Jammer, who wrestled a great match. For a while, it looked as though Jammer would pull off the upset, but Zbyszko utilized his usual illegal tactics and got himself disqualified. Jammer may not have won the title, but his victory impressed a lot of peers and fans alike.

OTHER BOUTS: Jonnie Stewart drew with Buck Zumhofe ... Larry Cameron defeated Jimmy Valiant ... Tim Hunt & Big Rhett beat Joe Cazano & Jerry Lynn ... John Nord & Baron Von Raschke wrestled to a no-contest against Wayne Bloom & Larry Cameron ... Ricky Rice beat Charlie Norris.



Matt Brock's **PLAIN SPEAKING**

DALLAS, TX: Woman problems in Texas. Is that anything new? It seems as if women have *always* been getting involved in men's business in Texas wrestling, from Sunshine and Precious right through to Missy Hyatt. Now it's Jeannie and Toni Adams who are getting involved in Chris Adams' matches. This is a nasty catfight. Toni is Chris' wife; Jeannie is his ex-wife. Get the picture? The thing is, Chris seems to be making very little effort to stop the fighting between these women. Maybe he's just like the rest of us red-blooded males: We like to have the ladies fighting over us. I remember years and years ago, at a spot just off Times Square in New York City, these two babes with gorgeous gams started getting antsy over yours truly. Well, I let 'em squawk it out, then left 'em both standing there and left, but I'll admit to you: This ol' man liked being fought over. So, Adams, I see where you're coming from. And, as we all know, Toni and Jeannie have a bit more than gorgeous gams. But to be serious, there's a place for everything. The USWA should put an end to this feud before it gets totally out of hand. If it isn't there already.

MEMPHIS, TN: Leon Spinks has been called in as a referee for a match between The Snowman and Jerry Lawler. The Snowman, it seems, doesn't think he's getting an even break against Lawler, and has called in his friend, Spinks, to don the stripes. Well, Snowy, join the crowd. Lawler's had the home court advantage in Memphis for years, and that's something that probably isn't going to change for a long, long time to come. Snowman, however, isn't making too many friends around here. He's criticized virtually every referee in the USWA. One official, who didn't want his name in print, said: "The fastest way to get the close calls going against you in this business is to criticize the men who are making the calls. We've got a tough job, and if we miss some things once in a while, those are the breaks. As for Snowman, well, he's not exactly a perfect wrestler." Bravo! I've never been one to blindly back up the arbiters, but most of the time they do the best job they can under very trying

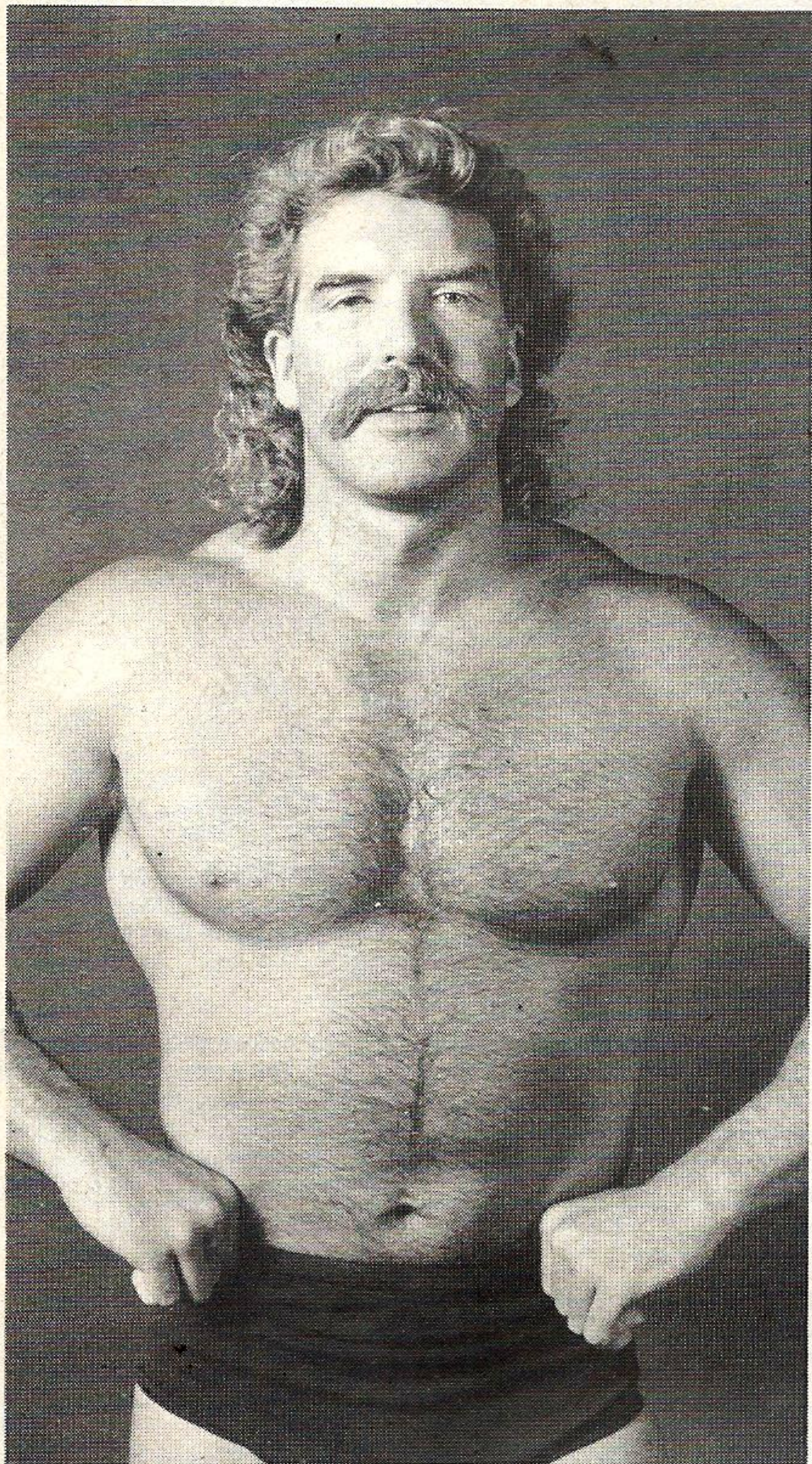


LEON SPINKS

athletic conditions. But when outsiders—like boxers—like Spinks—are called in to do the job, things get messed up. I say leave the job of officiating in the hands of the officials.

CAROLINA, PUERTO RICO: Haven't been down here in nearly two years; last time was when the WWC celebrated its 15th anniversary with a special card. But, of course, it's my job to cover every nook and cranny of this sport, so here I am. Maybe I don't always end up in the most appealing places, but nobody ever said this job was a piece of cake. A few observations: Puerto Rican fans are still among the most enthusiastic (a diplomatic term for wild) in the world, Puerto Rican wrestling is incredibly violent compared to what we see here in the states, and

Harder than nails, veteran wrestling reporter Matt Brock has logged more miles covering wrestling than any other journalist. Every month Matt will travel to the sport's hotbeds, reporting everything he sees without fear or favor

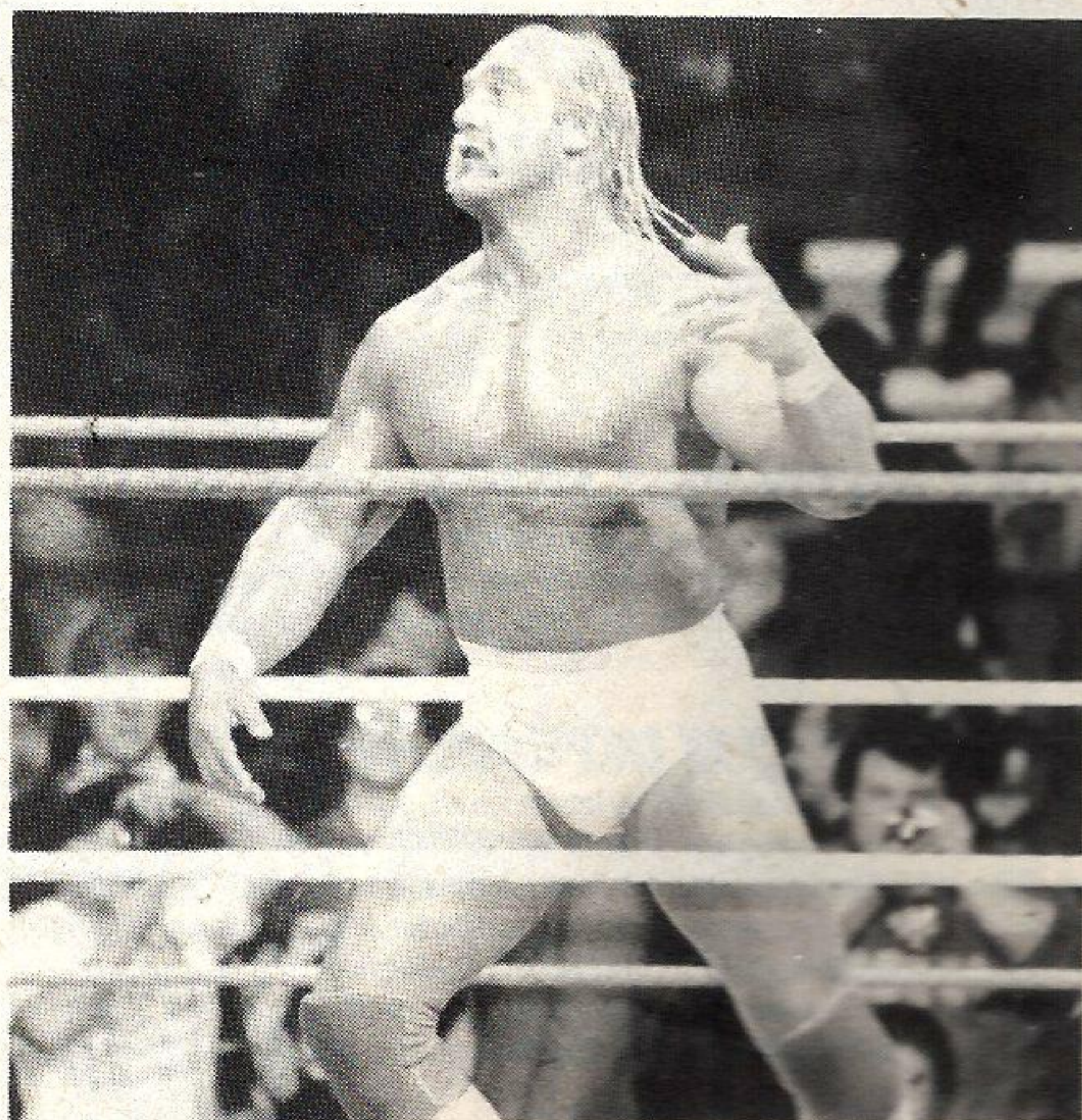


SCOTT HALL

there seem to be very few American wrestlers on cards here these days. An exception to that third point: Scott Hall was down here, and he looked pretty good against WWC Universal champ Carlos Colon before getting disqualified. Of course, beating Colon in Puerto Rico isn't the easiest job in the world. It's kind of like beating the Celtics in Boston Garden, it just doesn't happen that often. "Anybody who steps into the ring against Colon here knows what they're up against," Hall said. "Colon's a good wrestler, he likes to wrestle here, and the fans

really get behind him." That's a tough combination to beat.

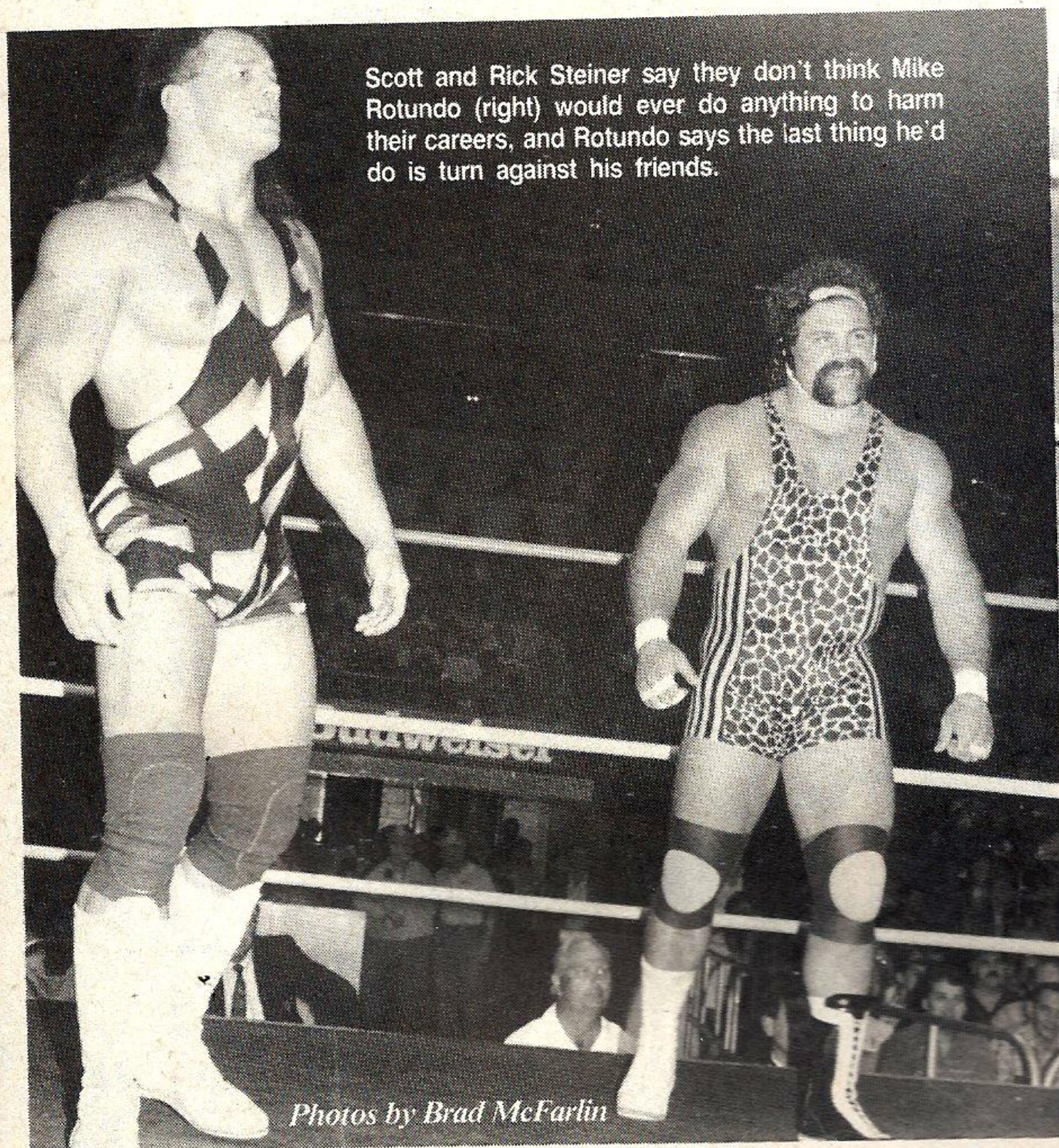
TRENTON, NJ: First, the rumor: Hulk Hogan is here, training at Trenton State College, for a possible return in SummerSlam '90. So I hop into my car, drive down to Trenton, and start snooping around the college. I check out the gym. No Hogan. I drive around the grounds. No Hogan. Calling the hotels in the area seems to be futile,



HULK HOGAN

because he'd never check in under his real name. I spend three rotten days looking for Hulk Hogan in Trenton, then I learn that he's back home in California after all. It never occurred to me that Trenton, New Jersey, isn't exactly the most likely place for someone like Hogan to train. Good enough city, sure, but it's far away from where he lives, and Trenton has never been a regular stop on the WWF tour. So much for reporting instincts, which sometimes tell me that what's most unlikely is precisely what's likely. Anyway, it turned out that the rumors of Hogan's return weren't exaggerated. He'll be back in the ring against Earthquake at SummerSlam '90 at the Spectrum in Philadelphia. Well, now the rumors make a little sense: Philadelphia's only a hop, skip, and a jump away from Trenton. □

Mike Rotundo's Shocking Mission: INFILTRATE AND DESTROY THE STEINERS!



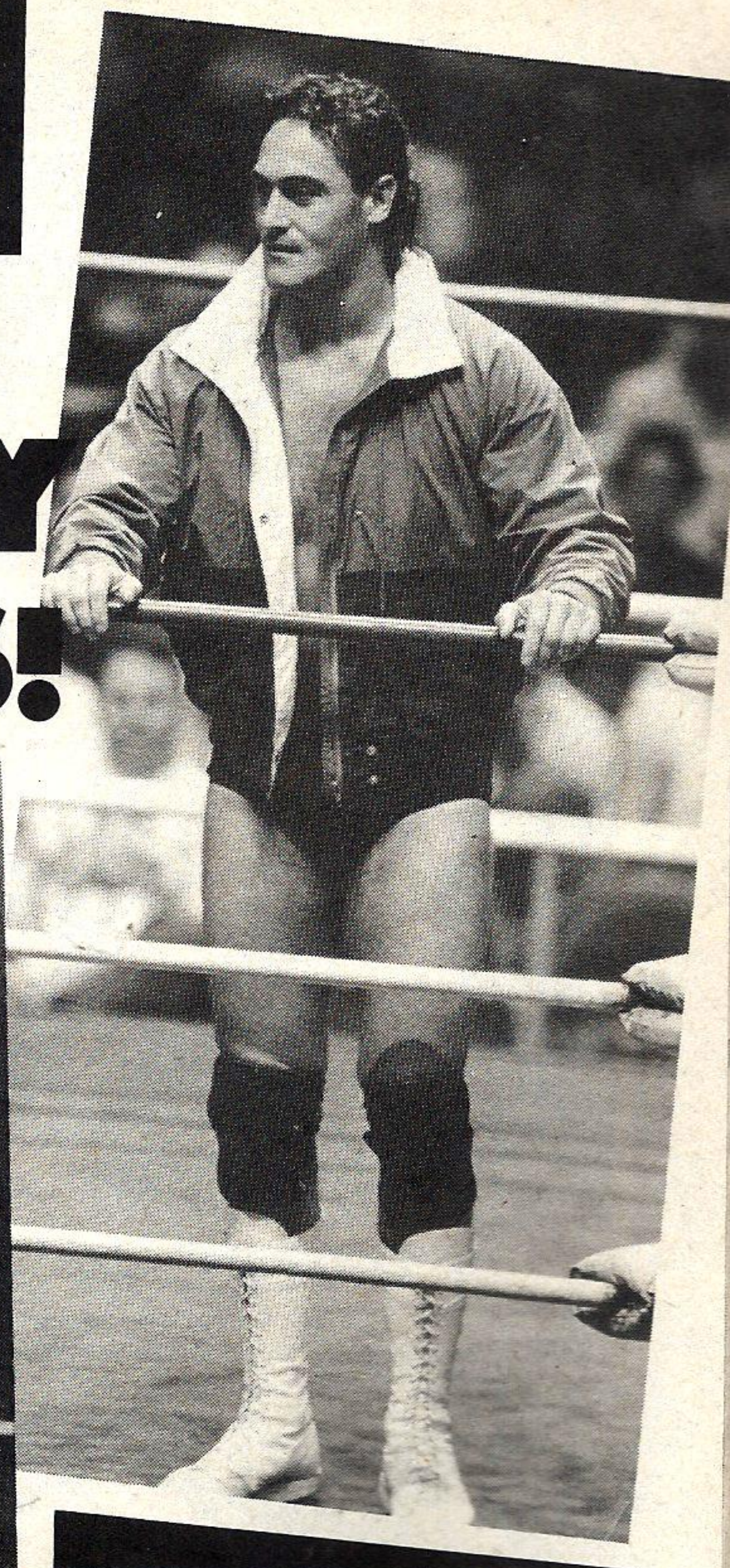
By Andy Rodriguez

MIKE ROTUNDO IS a fan favorite, but *Inside Wrestling* has learned after a thorough investigation that his recent actions are decidedly those of a rulebreaker . . . even though it might not appear that way.

According to several high-level sources, Rotundo is spying for several

tag teams and singles wrestlers in the rulebreakers' clique. His job is to weaken the Steiner brothers and make them less of a threat.

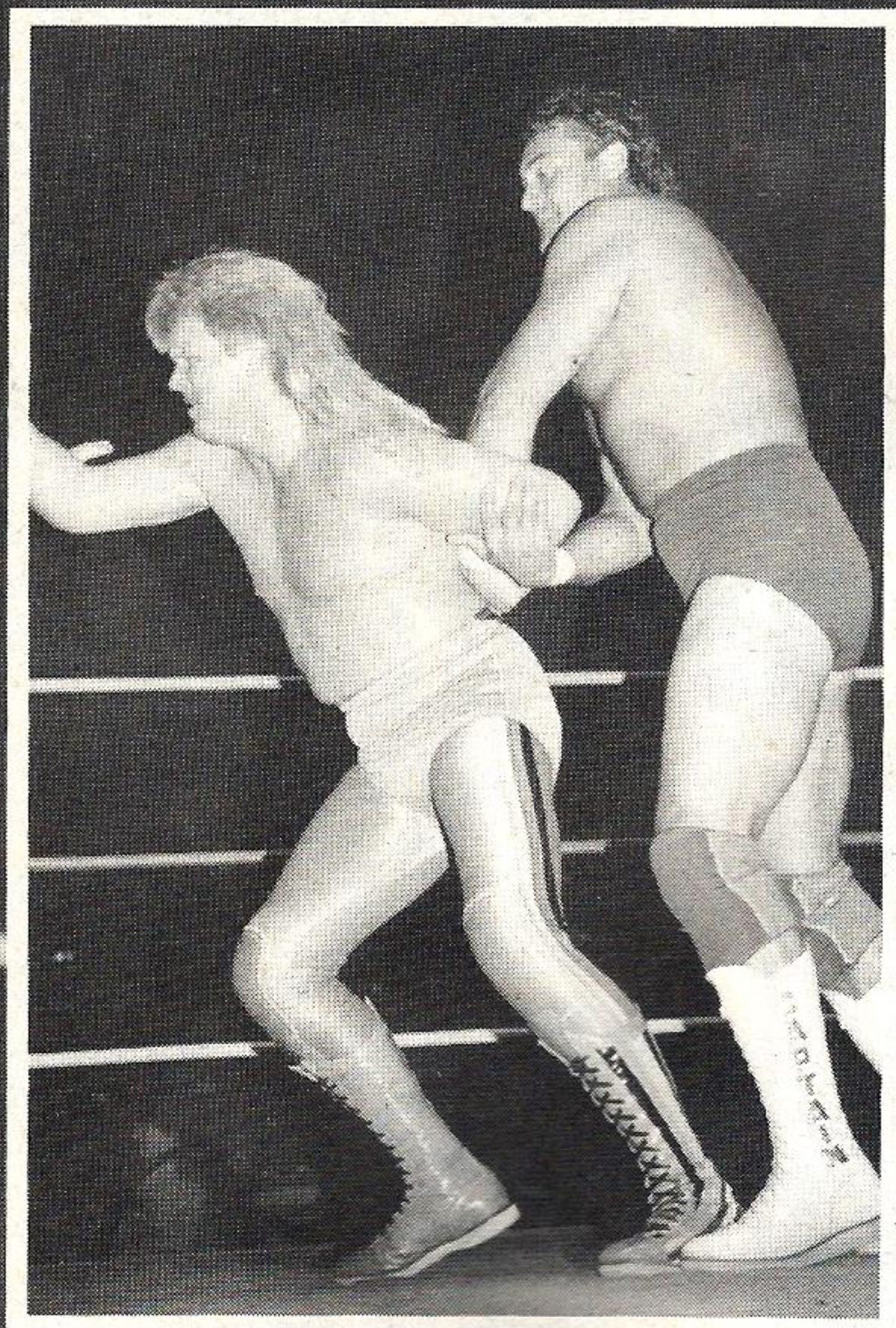
"Hogwash," Rotundo said when informed of our investigation. "Rick and Scott are good friends of mine. You know, this really annoys me because everybody said I should change, then I did change, and now everybody's suspi-



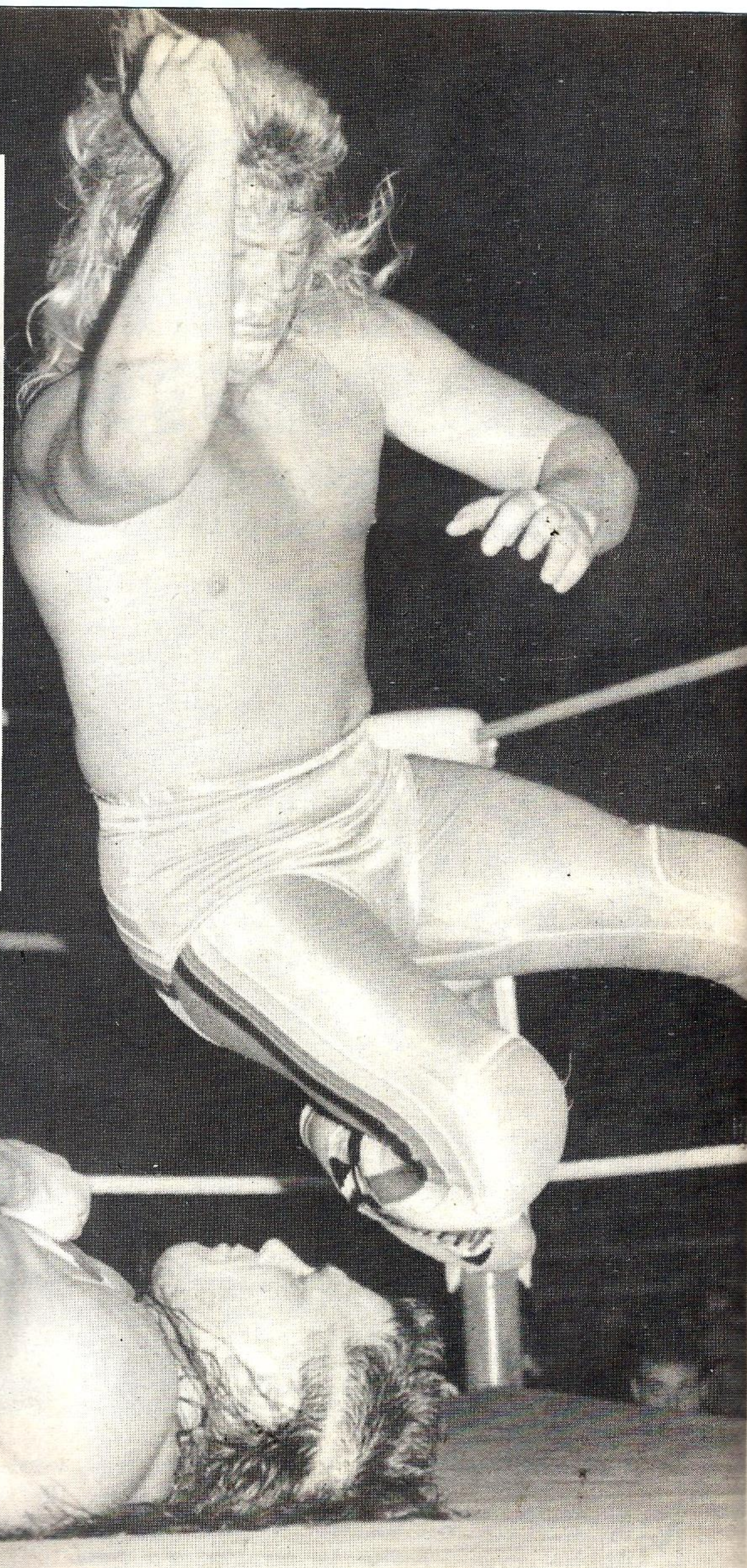
Mike Rotundo acts like he's Rick and Scott Steiner's friend. Is he? An intensive investigation by *Inside Wrestling* revealed that Rotundo could be the Steiners' worst enemy

cious of me."

Well, not everybody. The Steiners, for example, were shocked to hear our conclusion. Rick shook his head in disbelief and said: "Mike's my buddy."



When Rotundo wrestled Bobby Eaton (above), he may have been more interested in seeing how his partner in that match, Scott Steiner, fared against Eaton (right).



Scott said: "I can tell when somebody's lying to me and I don't think Mike is lying to us. He's on our side."

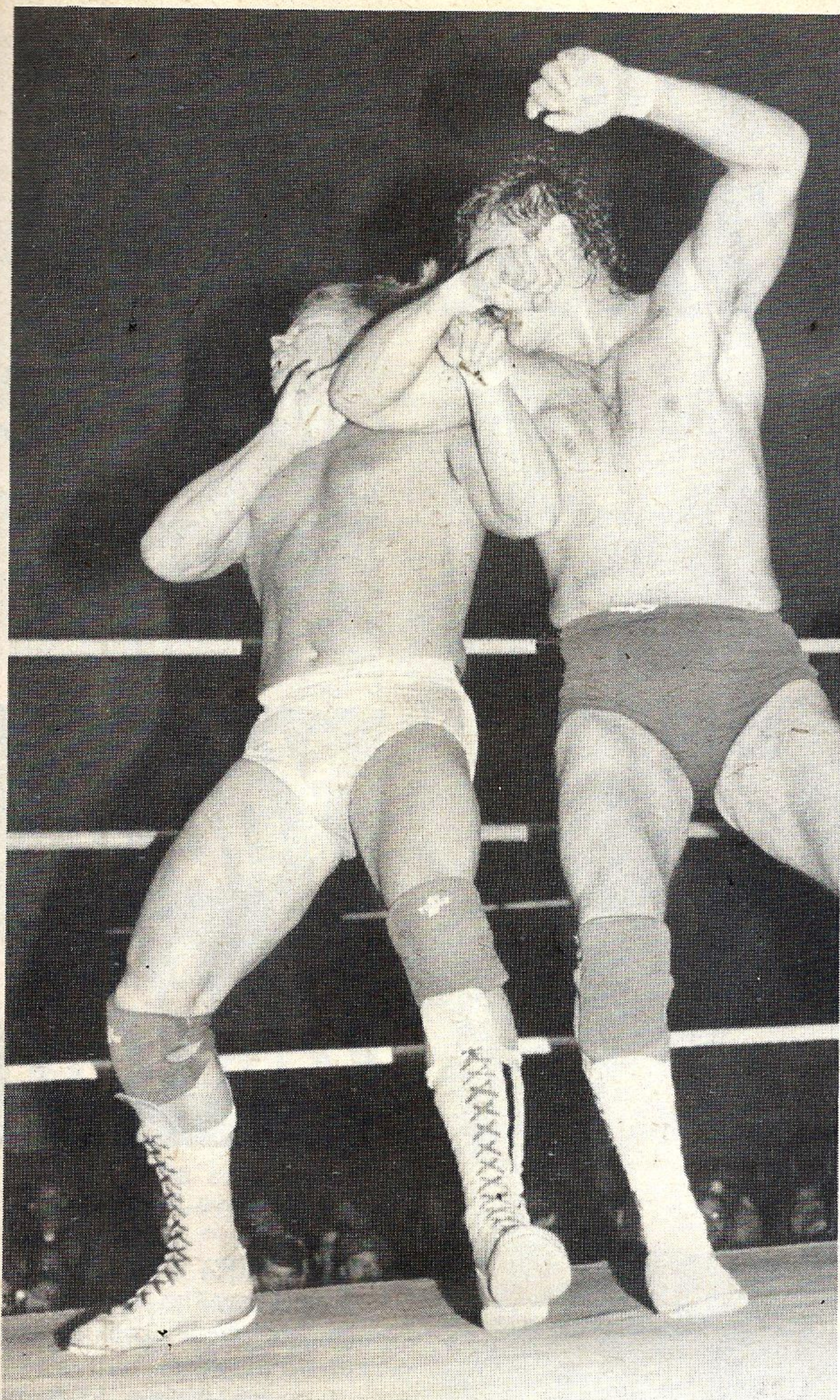
Perhaps the Steiners are guilty of wishful thinking; we want to trust our

friends and think the best of them. But the evidence, while not overwhelming, is certainly damaging.

●Rotundo, while no longer a rule-breaker, was forced to become a fan

favorite when his alma mater, Syracuse University, threatened to take away his varsity letter.

●Rotundo has been seen several times in the company of rulebreakers,



including Bobby Eaton and Stan Lane of The Midnight Express. Observers said these meetings appeared to be friendly.

●Rotundo and Scott's recent match against The Midnight Express appeared to be a scouting mission for Rotundo.

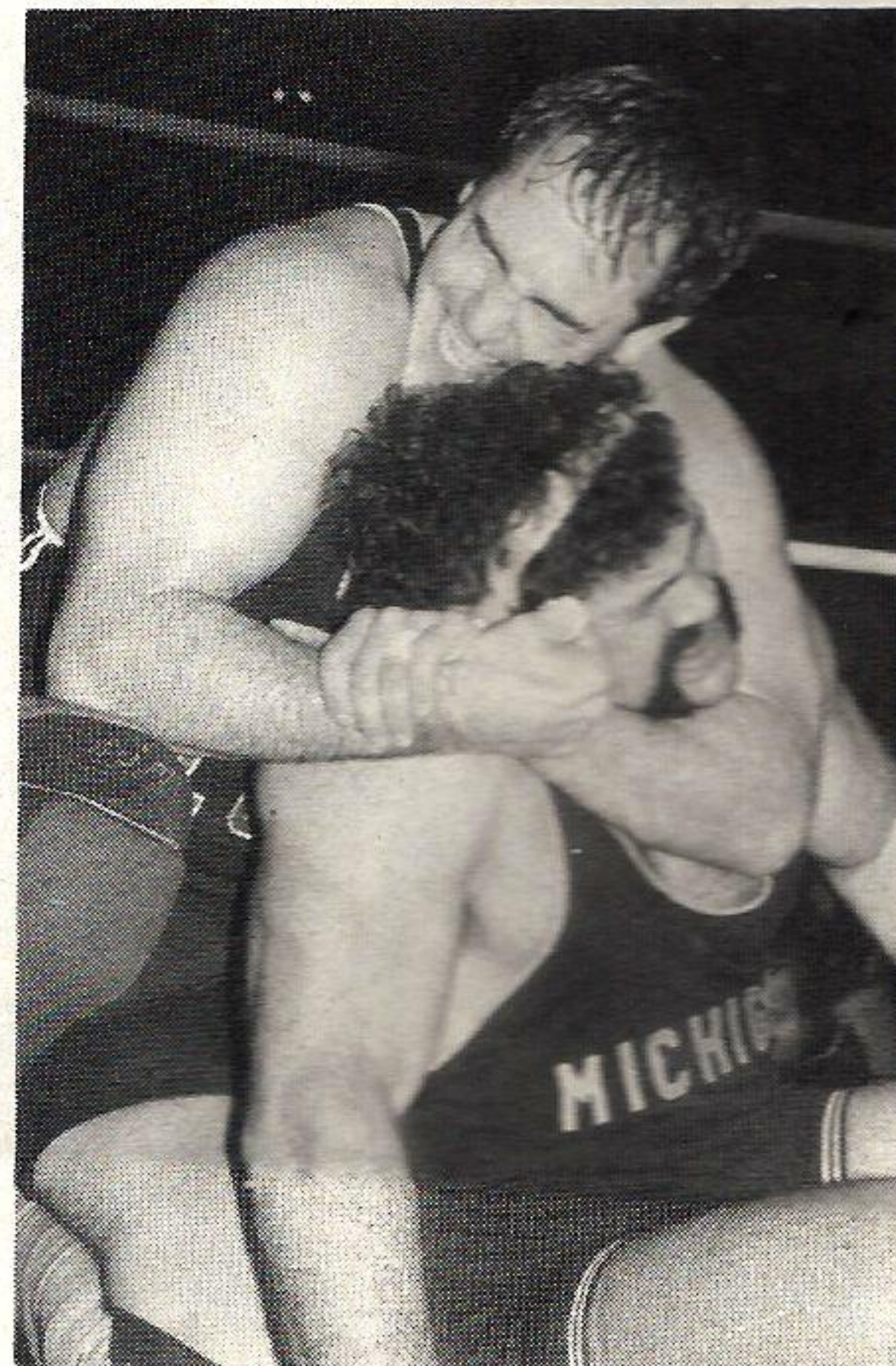
"Rotundo knows all about Rick because they were together in The Varsity Club, but he needed to find out more about Scott," one source said.

"From what I heard, Rotundo really pushed for that match. He desperately wanted to team with Scott so he'd have a reason to train with him and learn more about him: how he sets up opponents for certain moves, new moves that he's trying to perfect in the gym, etc. Scott did it out of friendship."

Did Rotundo report his findings back to the Midnights and NWA World tag team champions Doom?



As a fan favorite, Rotundo wrestles rulebreakers like Stan Lane (left) and Eaton (above) on a nightly basis. But not too long ago, Rotundo was himself a rulebreaker, defending his NWA TV title against Rick Steiner (below).



That is unknown. But there is clearly reason for the rulebreakers to worry about the Steiners.

Scott and Rick are still considered by many to be the best all-around tag team in the sport. They also pose a singles threat. Either Rick or Scott would be a contender for the NWA World heavyweight title. These men are *that* good.

"It almost seems like it's just a mat-

(Continued on page 56)

THE JUICE PATROL

Can
You Take
These Men
Seriously?

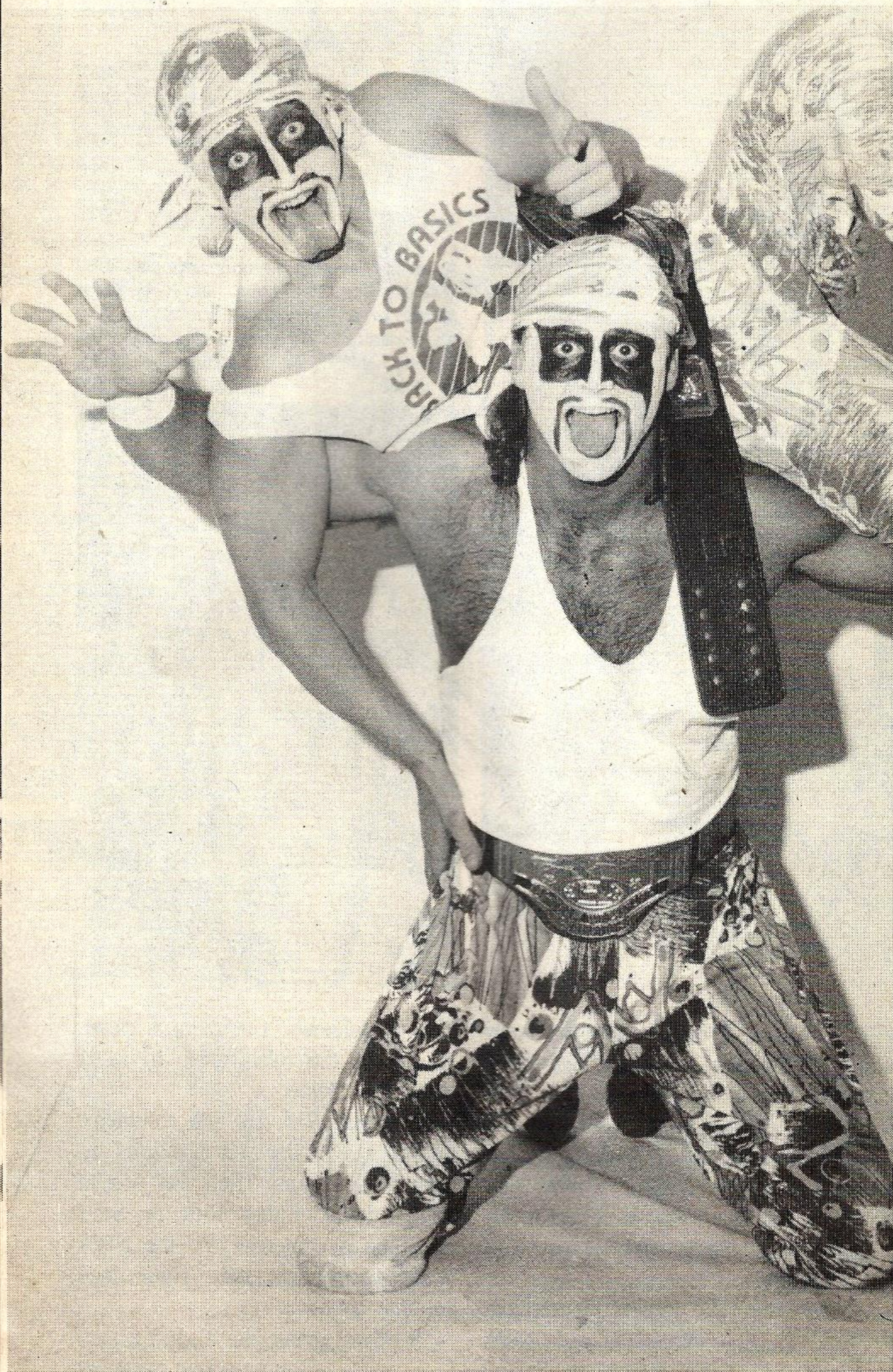
*You'd
Better!*

By Dave Rosenbaum

THE FIRST TIME Ricky Santana saw The Juice Patrol, he nearly fell on his back in uncontrollable laughter.

"I couldn't believe it," Santana said. "Here are these two clowns, coming into the ring with this ridiculous face makeup, doing the conga to 'Day-O,' and just making a spectacle of themselves. I turned to Curtis and said, 'Are these guys kidding?'"

The last time Curtis Thompson and Santana, the members of U.S. Male, saw The Juice Patrol, they were dancing around the ring with the Pacific Northwest tag



team belts raised high above their heads. Those belts used to belong to Thompson and Santana.

Not anymore.

So, although they won't admit it, count Thompson and Santana among the legions who have learned to respect The Juice Patrol.

They're The New Kids on the Block of pro wrestling. *Day-O!*

"We're in this to have fun and win some titles, not necessarily in that order," said "Beetlejuice" Art Barr.

"The fans love us and we're the champs!" said "Big Juice" Jeff Warner. "What could be better?"

Together, Beetlejuice and Big Juice have taken the PNW by storm. They're the champs and certainly the most popular duo this area has seen in a long time. What makes them special?

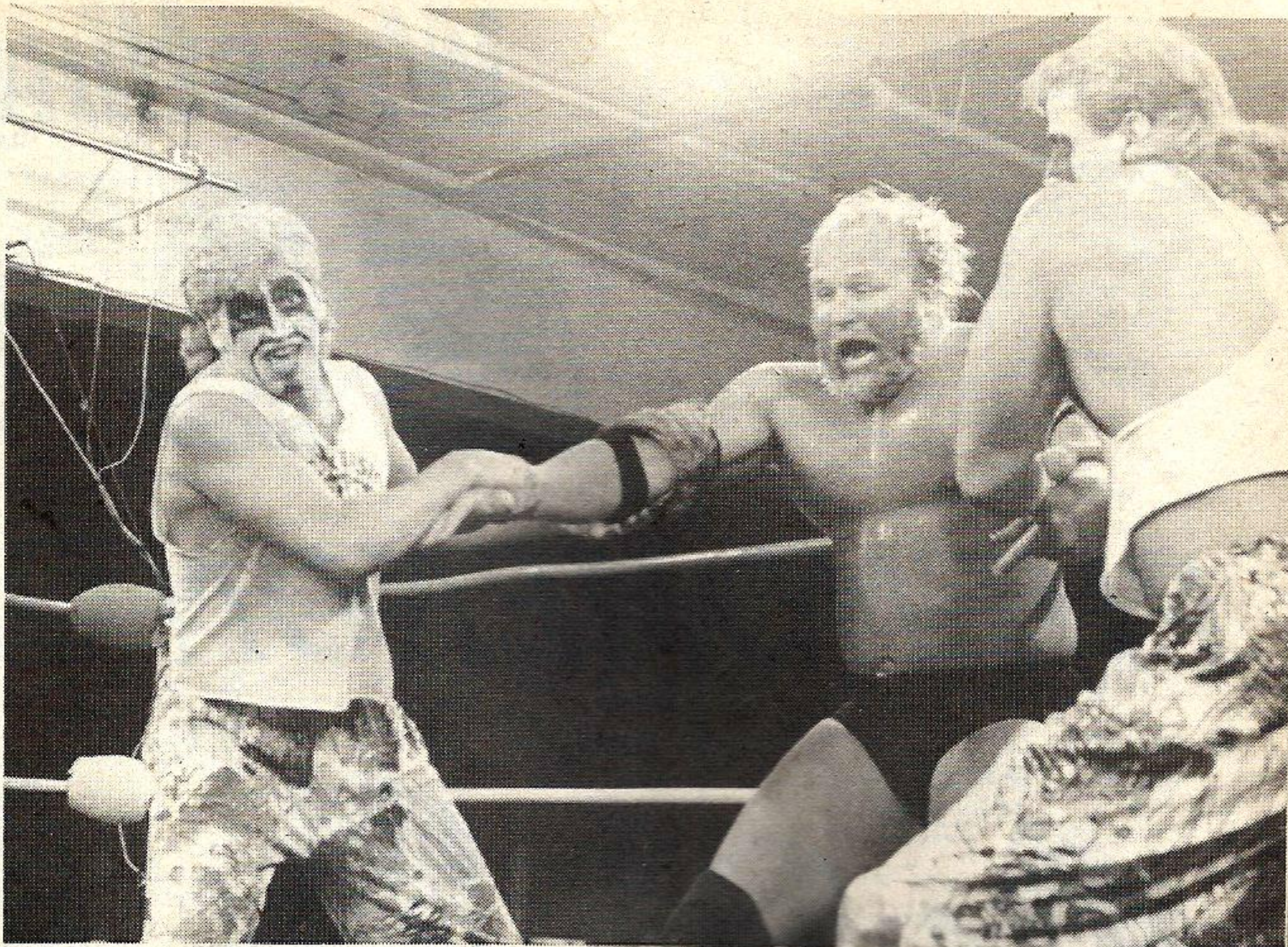
Well, how many wrestlers come into the ring wearing face makeup inspired by the movie *Beetlejuice*? How many wrestlers make their ring entrance in a conga line, boogieing along to the exotic strains of "The Banana Boat Song"?

And, most of all, how many wrestlers can do all this and win titles, too?

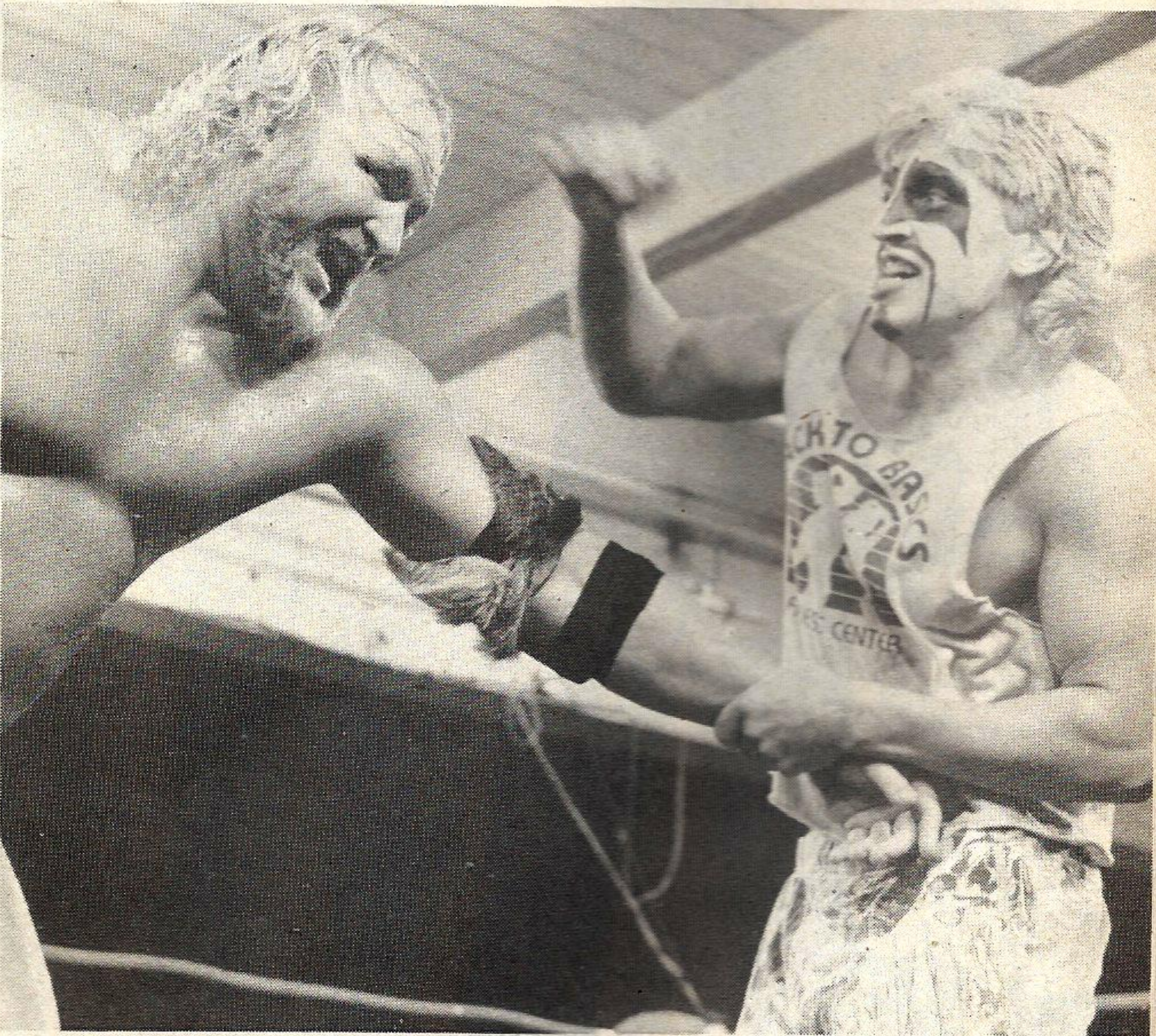
"They're the best," said Portland resident Judy Elloise. Judy, like most Juice Patrol fans, is too young to have a job: she's only 13. Her heroes are The Juice Patrol and New Kids on the Block.

It's this relationship with the younger fans that makes The Juice Patrol special. People are naturally attracted to this good-natured duo with the ever-present smiles.

(Continued on page 58)

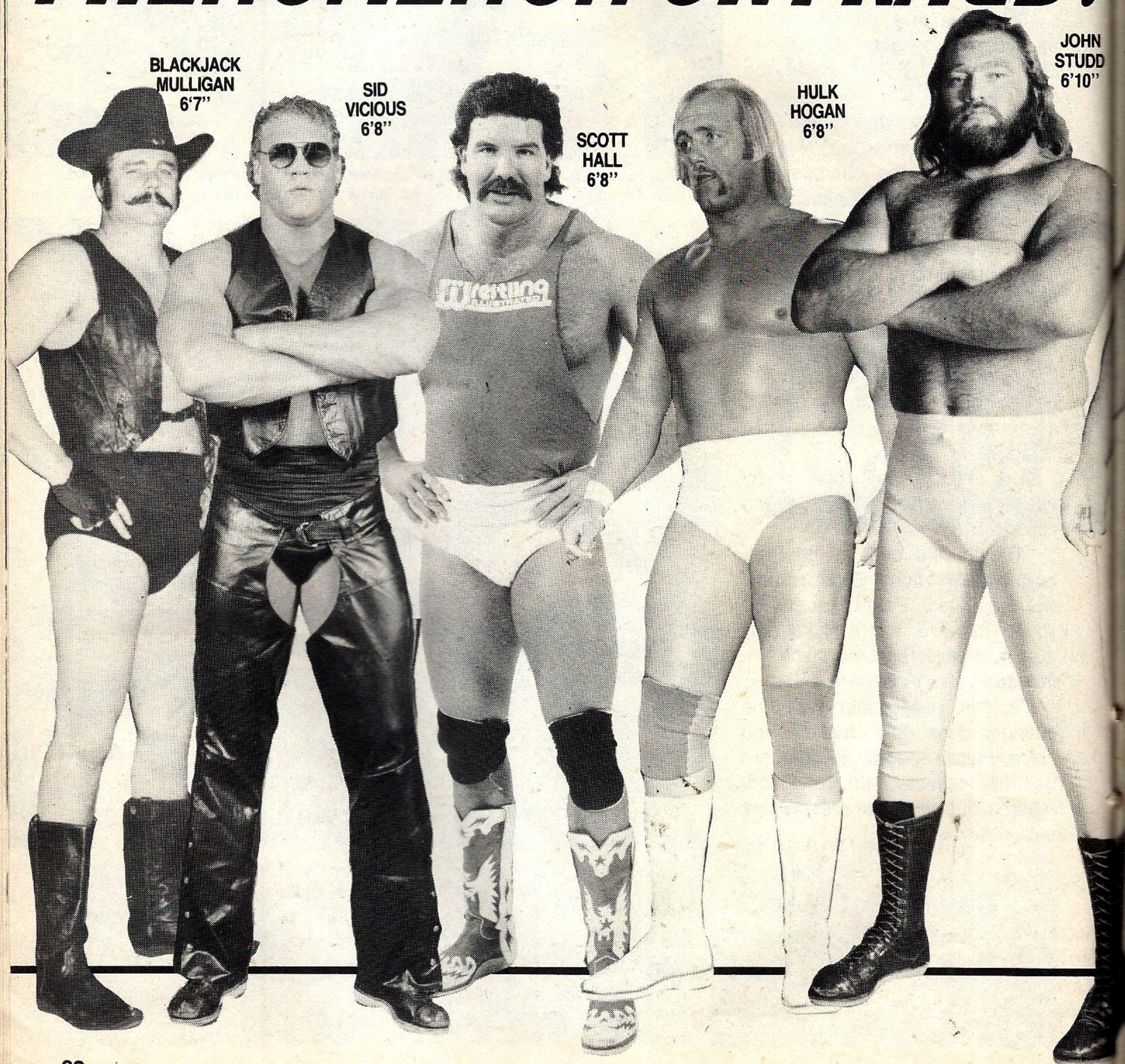


The Juice Patrol has The Equalizer totally confused (above and below). "Beetlejuice" Art Barr and "Big Juice" Jeff Warner have the fans firmly in their corner.



Day-O! Get ready for The Juice Patrol, the team that's taken the Pacific Northwest by storm. They're "Beetlejuice" Art Barr and "Big Juice" Jeff Warner, and they're the new PNW tag champs!

Wrestling's Biggest **EL GIG** *PHENOMENON OR FRAUD?*



BLACKJACK
MULLIGAN
6'7"

SID
VICIOUS
6'8"

SCOTT
HALL
6'8"

HULK
HOGAN
6'8"

JOHN
STUDD
6'10"

Big Man: GIGANTE-

El Gigante is a big man, but he might never become a big star. The 7'7" former basketball player from Argentina might be trying to do too much too soon ... with too little

By Bob Smith



ANDRE
THE GIANT
7'5"

EL
GIGANTE
7'7"

PEOPLE TEND TO take notice when a 7'7" man walks into a room. When El Gigante walked into the dressing room at The Omni in Atlanta, Lex Luger couldn't believe what he was seeing.

"I figured there was a basketball game that night and not a wrestling card," Luger said, only half-jokingly. "Then I realized that the Hawks never play in June. I was amazed at what I was looking at."

"I had heard about him," said Scott Steiner, "but until you see 7'7" up close and personal, you don't know exactly how big it is. And the guy's not exactly thin as a rail. He's 435 pounds!"

El Gigante, wrestling's biggest man, is actually Jorge Gonzalez, who played four years of basketball in Argentina before getting picked by the Hawks in the third round of the 1988 NBA draft. But a knee injury ended his court career before it even started.

Fortunately for Gonzalez, however, he wasn't out of work. Ted Turner, who owns the Hawks, also owns the NWA. And if a 7'7" man isn't playing basketball, he might as well wrestle.

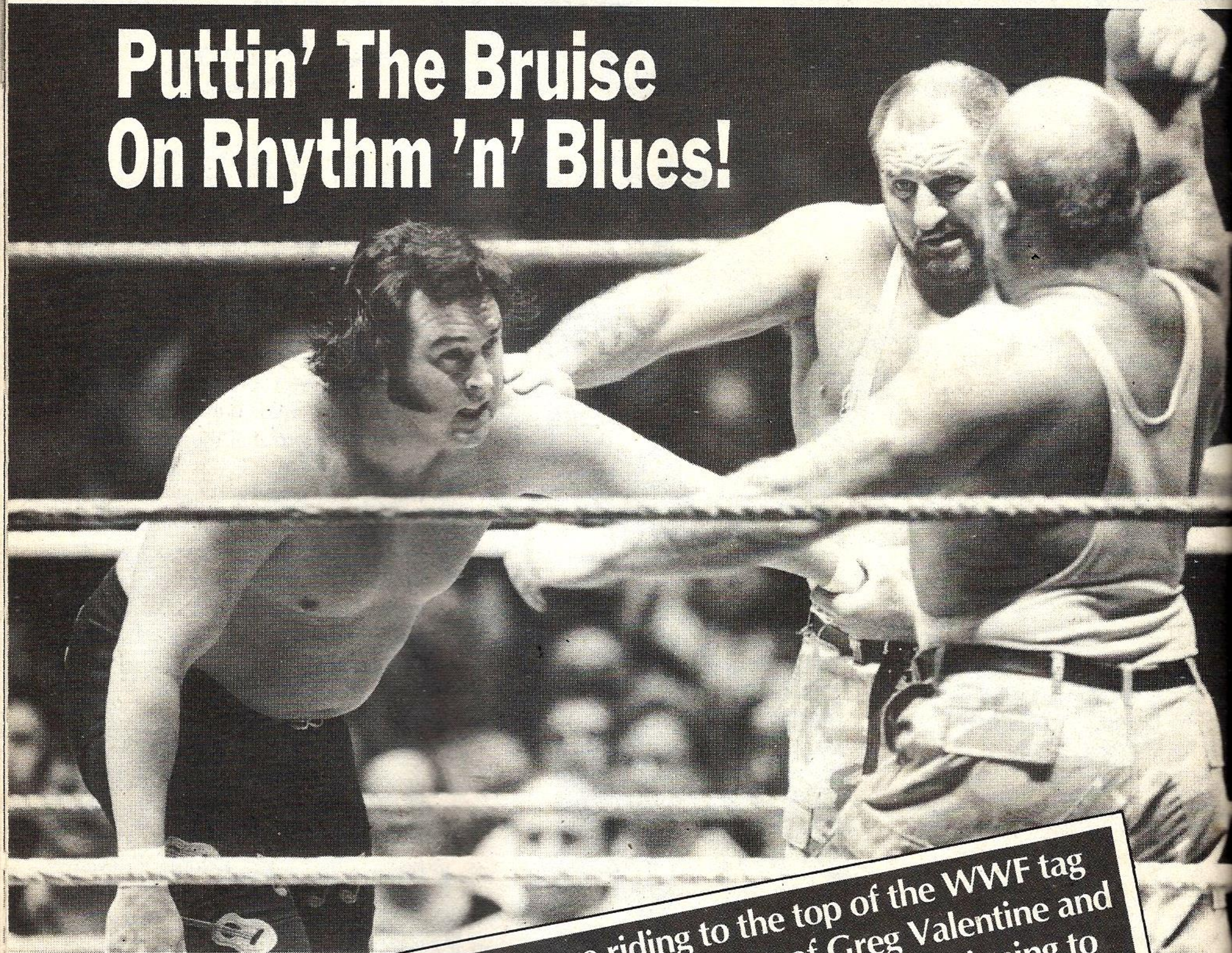
"I was very excited to become a pro wrestler," Gigante said through an interpreter. "It is something I watched quite often when I was younger, and this is like the fulfillment of a dream."

The question, however, is whether Gigante, who never wrestled before he came to the NWA, is merely a case of a man using his size to overcome a total lack of wrestling skill. Is

(Continued on page 60)

THOSE WACKY

Puttin' The Bruise On Rhythm 'n' Blues!



Luke Williams and Butch Miller are riding to the top of the WWF tag team charts, and they're doing it at the expense of Greg Valentine and The Honky Tonk Man—whose post-defeat whinings are beginning to sound like a broken record!

By Eddie Ellner

IN THE 31-flavor world of WWF wrestling, The Bushwhackers—Luke Williams and Butch Miller—are the chocolate and vanilla of the federation: straightforward grapplers who appeal to the basic tastes of enlightened wrestling fans everywhere.

They may not make women's hearts go a-flutter, but, like their confectionary counterparts, they can always be counted on to get the job done.

On the other side of the display lay the tag team of Rhythm 'n' Blues, a duo comprised of Honky Tonk Man and Greg Valentine, representing, respectively, tutti frutti and pralines 'n' cream. Honky Tonk and Valentine are

BUSHWHACKERS

all music but no melody, a pair of one-hit wonders desperately trying to establish a presence on the WWF tag team scene.

The feud between the two teams is as basic as black and white: The Bushwhackers, veteran headbangers, simply cannot tolerate the presence of the two guitar-strumming buffoons. According to The Bushwhackers, they are merely bringing a bit of their native New Zealand over to America. In New Zealand, where life is apparently much simpler than in America, when you don't like someone, you introduce them to your fist. What could be simpler than that?

So, in WWF wrestling rings from Maine to California, Williams and Miller pursue Valentine and Honky Tonk with a song of their own. The chorus, thus far, has been easy to memorize: crush, kill, and destroy—which The Bushwhackers have done with faithful regularity.

What is it about Honky Tonk and Valentine that annoys Williams and Miller the most?

Krin Ernst taught sociology at a New Zealand university for 17 years before moving to New Jersey, where he now makes his home. A devout Bushwhacker fan, Ernst predicted his hometown boys would zero in on Rhythm 'n' Blues a full month before the feud began.

"Luke and Butch don't go for fancy trimmings," he explains. "New Zealanders frown on excess and detest shallow showmanship. If you got something in you to back it up, fine. If Valentine and Honky Tonk had any musical talent whatsoever, then Luke and Butch would probably like them. They admire men who can excel in more than one field.

"But they hate posers and show-offs who have neither the talent nor the ambition to develop their crafts," Ernst

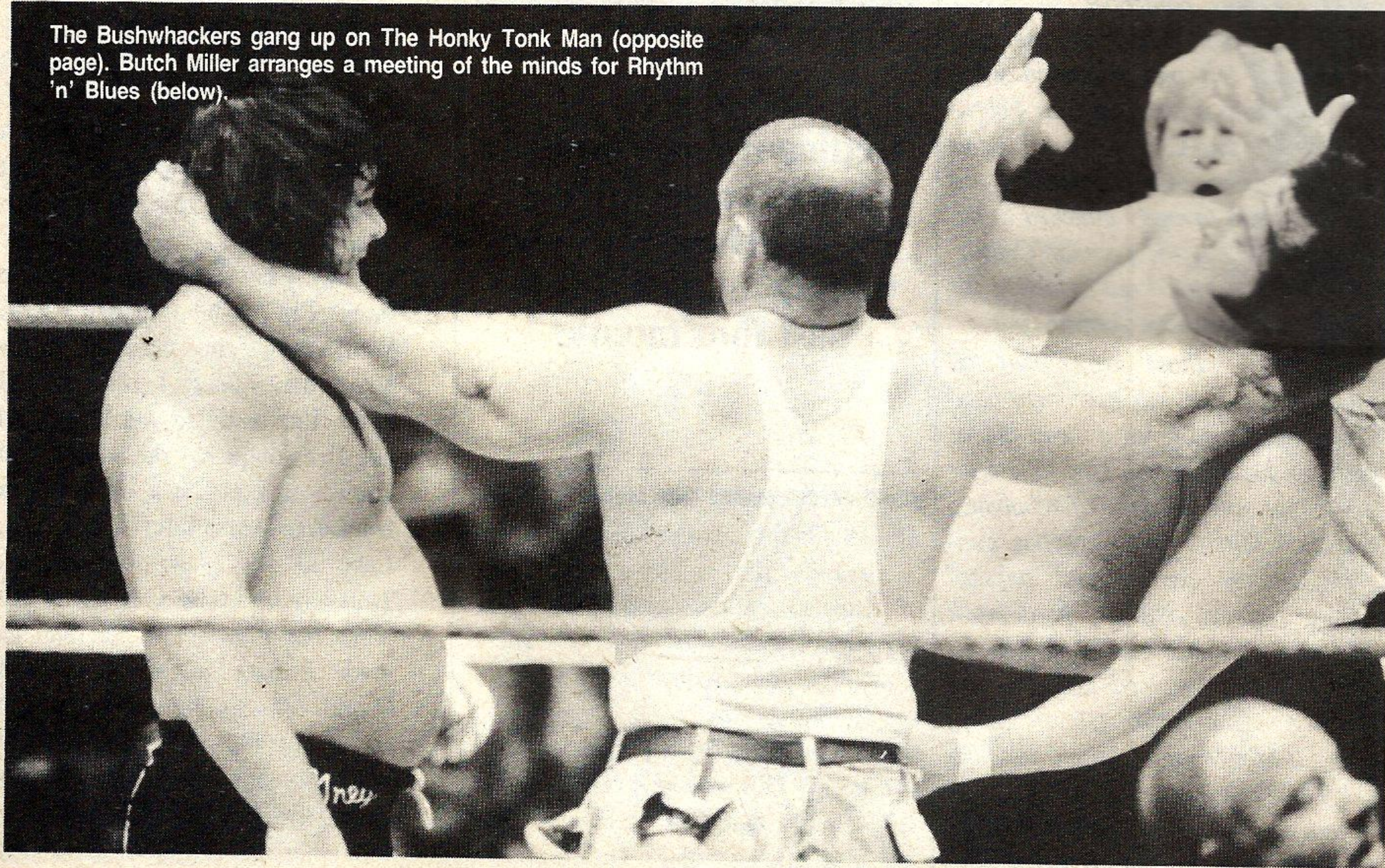
continued. "They hate men whose very existence demeans their own profession. The Honky Tonk Man embodies both of those odious qualities. He can't wrestle and he can't sing, yet he portrays himself as a man who can do both."

But how does that explain The Bushwhacker's animosity toward Greg Valentine, whose ring skills have been widely documented?

"They hate Valentine *much* more than Honky Tonk," Ernst explains. "Valentine is a man with proven talent and integrity, yet he has become so weak that he has allowed himself to be manipulated by a no-talent cartoon character. The Bushwhackers feel that Valentine should know better; they feel he can still be saved. Thus, they will aim their punishment more in his direction. In their world, pain equals redemption."

(Continued on page 62)

The Bushwhackers gang up on The Honky Tonk Man (opposite page). Butch Miller arranges a meeting of the minds for Rhythm 'n' Blues (below).



Photos by David Fitzgerald

HOTSEAT

STING

"I FEEL LIKE I'VE CONQUERED THE WORLD!"

IT IS ALREADY being called the greatest comeback ever. Sting is back, he's hungry for action, and he has the NWA World title firmly in his sights!

The story has been told many times, but it bears repeating once more: Sting, the top contender to NWA World champion Ric Flair, severely ruptured his left patella tendon while trying to climb a steel cage on February 6 in Corpus Christi, Texas. Later that night, Flair, Ole Anderson, and Arn Anderson savagely attacked Sting, guaranteeing that the popular Californian would be forced out of action for a long time—perhaps forever.

Fortunately, those who predicted that Sting's career was over were dead wrong. Sting was given a clean bill of health by his doctors in late June after nearly four solid months of rehabilitation. For Sting, every day has contained endless exercise and physical therapy sessions, but his hard work and persistence has paid off. His injured leg has regained strength and flexibility. One thing that hasn't changed: Sting's raging hatred for Flair and The Four Horsemen.

And he didn't have to wait long to get what he lusted for. NWA Execu-

tive Vice President Jim Herd ordered that Flair take on Sting in the main event of The Great American Bash on July 7 in Baltimore. Just a few days before the big event, Associate Editor Eddie Ellner traveled to Baltimore to speak to the returning superstar.

“

Getting revenge on Flair has been the driving factor behind my every waking moment for the past four months.

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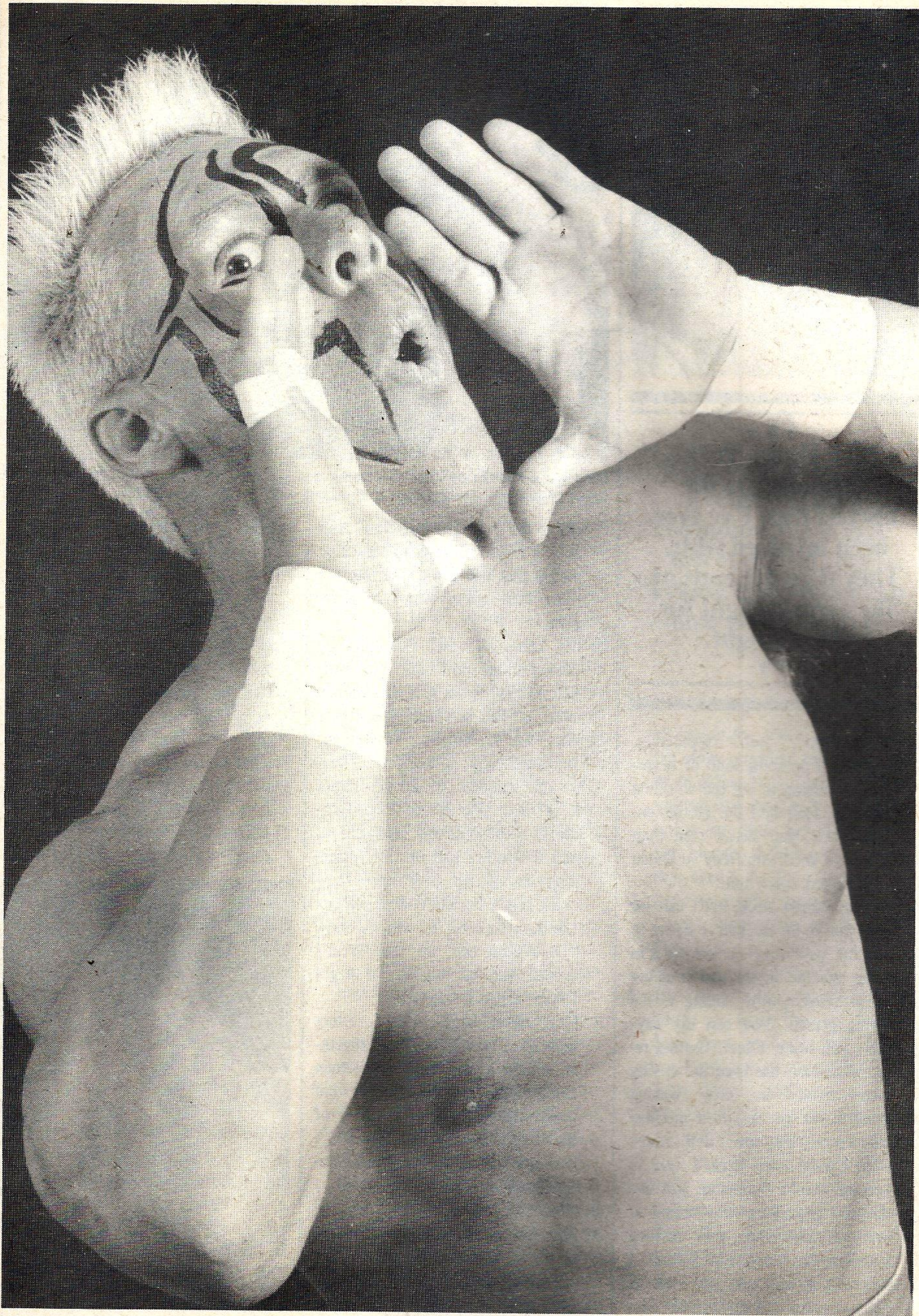
Q: Ah, Baltimore. The land of beehive hairdos, the country's worst beer, and an endless stream of Great American Bashes. This is where you're going to live out your life's ambition, Sting?

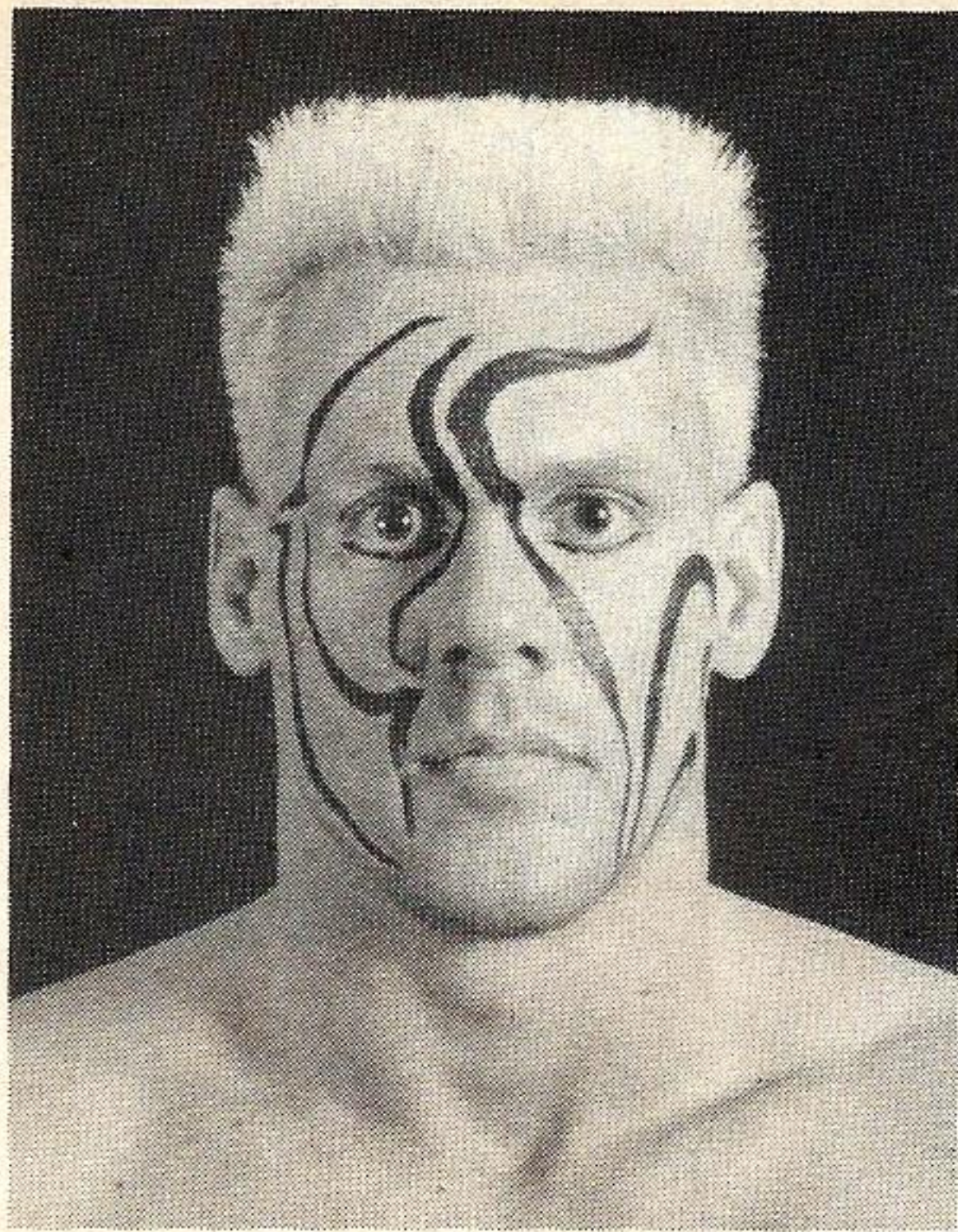
A: Hey, Eddie, don't put down Baltimore. This is a great area of the country, and these are some of the most loyal and knowledgeable

wrestling fans anywhere. I can think of no better place to put Flair down for the final time.

Q: As you must know, I'm not a big fan of yours. But I do admire the way in which you've worked your way back. And I guess I must ask you a question that's been on the minds of the fans: Are you *really* ready to get back to action at this point? I mean, you're going to wrestle the World champion in a matter of days, but you haven't even had one sanctioned match since February.

A: I know what you're saying. You think I'm rushing myself back. Well, there's no need to worry about me, Ellner. I feel great. I know I'm ready to rumble. I feel like I've conquered the world. You know, athletes have come back from even worse injuries than this. Look at Ric Flair, for instance. That guy broke his back in an airplane crash back in 1975, and he made it back to win the NWA World title six times. Well, if a rotten guy like that can overcome an injury that bad, then heaven knows I should be able to do it, too.





“
**The Dudes With
 Attitudes are the
 bravest men I've ever
 been involved with.
 They'd go the ends of
 the earth to fight for
 what's right.**
 ”

Q: “Rotten guy,” huh? Apparently, you're still on some kind of never-say-die mission to rid the wrestling world of Flair and the Horsemen. Good luck, pal. Better men than you have tried, and they've ended up defeated every time.

A: Nice try, smart aleck, but I can see what you're up to. You're trying to put the psych-out on me as I'm going into the biggest match of my career. Well, you're talking to the wrong person. You can say anything you want, Ellner. Getting revenge on Flair has been the driving factor behind my every waking moment for the past four months. You know, right now I don't know what I want more. Sure, I want to become World champion, just like the next guy. That's the dream of every wrestler who's ever climbed between the ropes. But I think I wanna put the hurt on Flair at least as much. I want to make him



Sting and Arn Anderson were once partners in The Four Horsemen, but now Sting and his fellow Dudes With Attitudes battle Anderson and his comrades regularly.

suffer the way I've suffered. And now, I've got some people backing me up that will make sure that the other four goons won't ruin my plans.

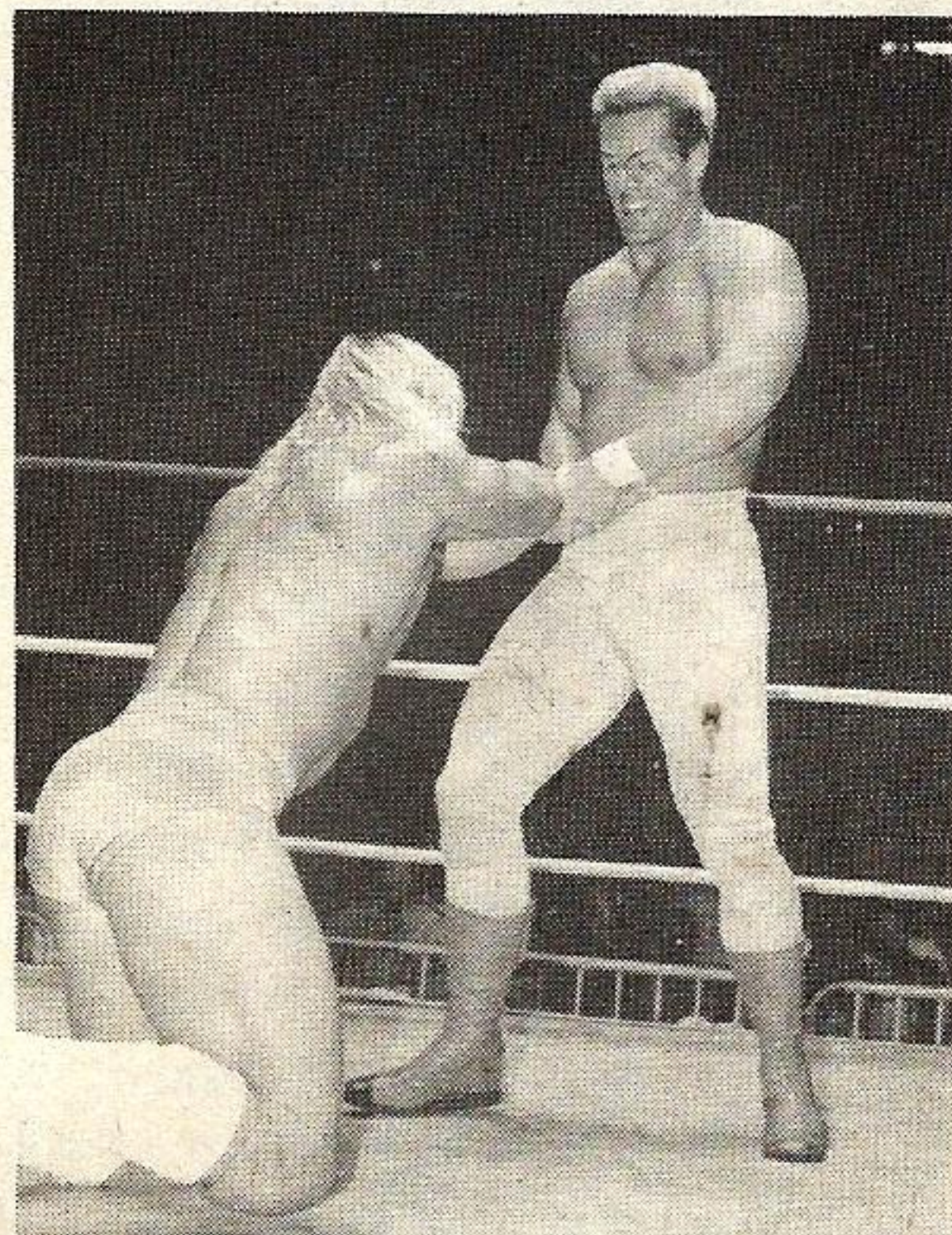
Q: Oh, come on now! You must be talking about the Dudes With Attitudes, or whatever it is that motley crew is calling themselves these days. Let's see now. You've got Junkyard Dog, a living testament to the wonders of an all-Burger King diet. You've got Paul Orndorff, who somehow managed to pull a bowling ball off his fingers long enough to pick up a few quick NWA bucks. You've got Lex Luger, a sure bet to win the 1990 “Underachiever of the Year” award. And, of course, you've got Rocky King. *Rocky King?*

A: Hey, don't laugh, Ellner. Every time the Dudes have gotten together, they've rendered the Horsemen completely immobile. Look at what happened at the end of Clash of the Champions XI, for instance. I was standing in the ring being interviewed by Rossie . . .

Q: Who?

A: Jim Ross. But this time, I was smart enough to surround the ring with the Dudes. When the Horsemen tried to attack me, the Dudes

held them all back—except for Flair, that is. When he tried to ambush me, I showed him exactly why breaking my knee will turn out to be the dumbest thing he ever did in his life. Anyone who watched that card knows I beat him up real bad, and all he could do was scamper back to the dressing room like the coward he is. That meant a lot to me. Not only did it mean I was ready to come back, but it also proved that the Dudes are much more powerful than the Horsemen have ever been.

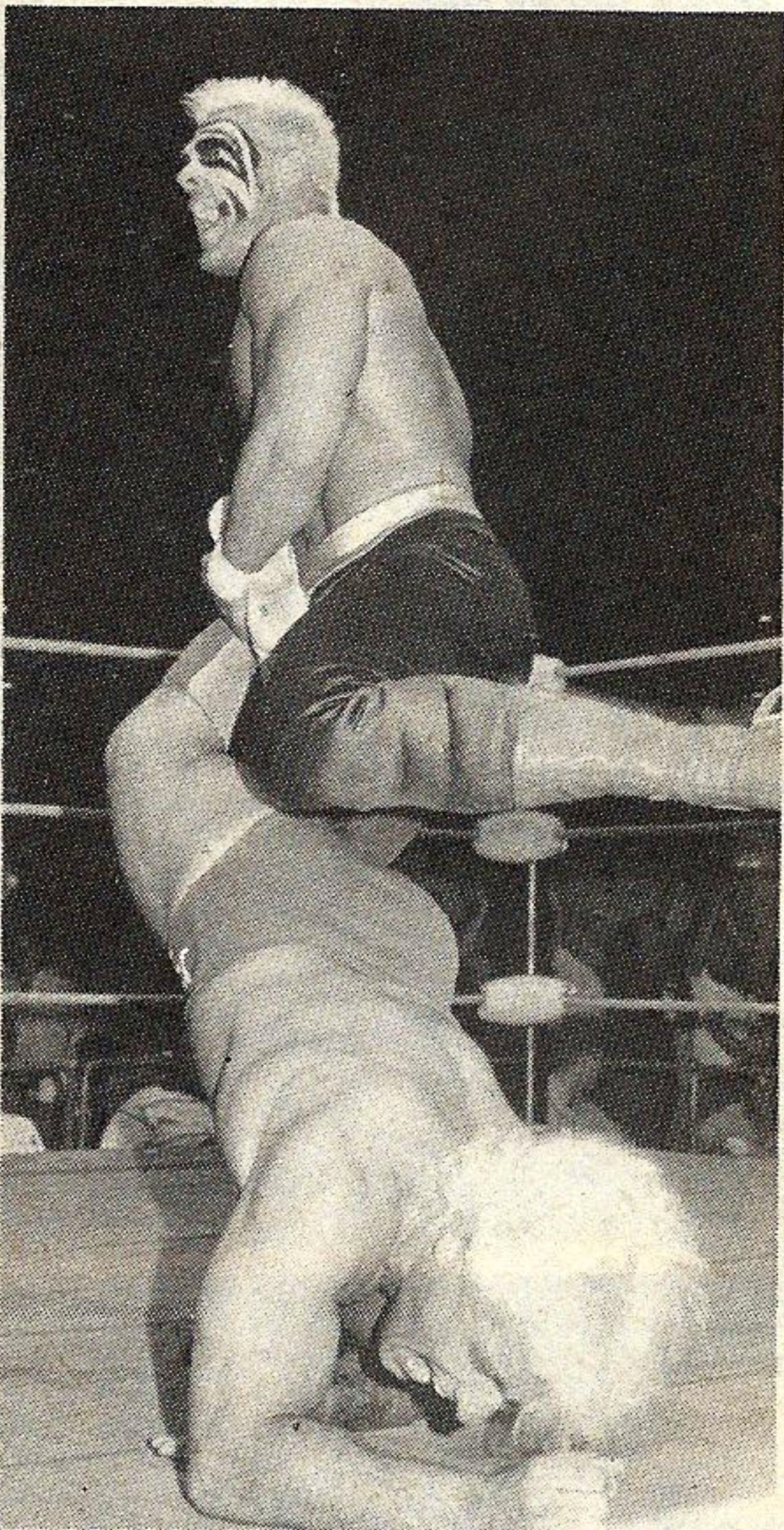


Sting says if he wins the World title, he wouldn't hesitate to give his friend Lex Luger a match.

Q: I think you've done one too many leg curls, mate. I can't believe you could ever compare the Dudes With Attitudes to The Four Horsemen. A fighting force consisting of Barry Windham, Arn Anderson, Sid Vicious, Ole Anderson, and Flair might be the best one they've ever put together.

A: That's bull. What have they accomplished so far?

Q: They busted your leg, for one thing!



The "Stinger" will do almost anything to get a fair match against Ric Flair. Sting nearly won the belt from the "Nature Boy" two years ago.

A: That's not the kind of thing I'm talking about, and you know it. I mean, what have they done in the ring? Nothing! I know that Flair is the World champion and Arn Anderson is the TV titleholder, but they won those belts long before they turned against me. Since then, all they've been doing is attacking Flair's opponents whenever he gets into trouble. Nice career move, guys! Not only are they all cringing cowards, but they're proud of it. That's not what the Dudes With Attitudes are all about. These are

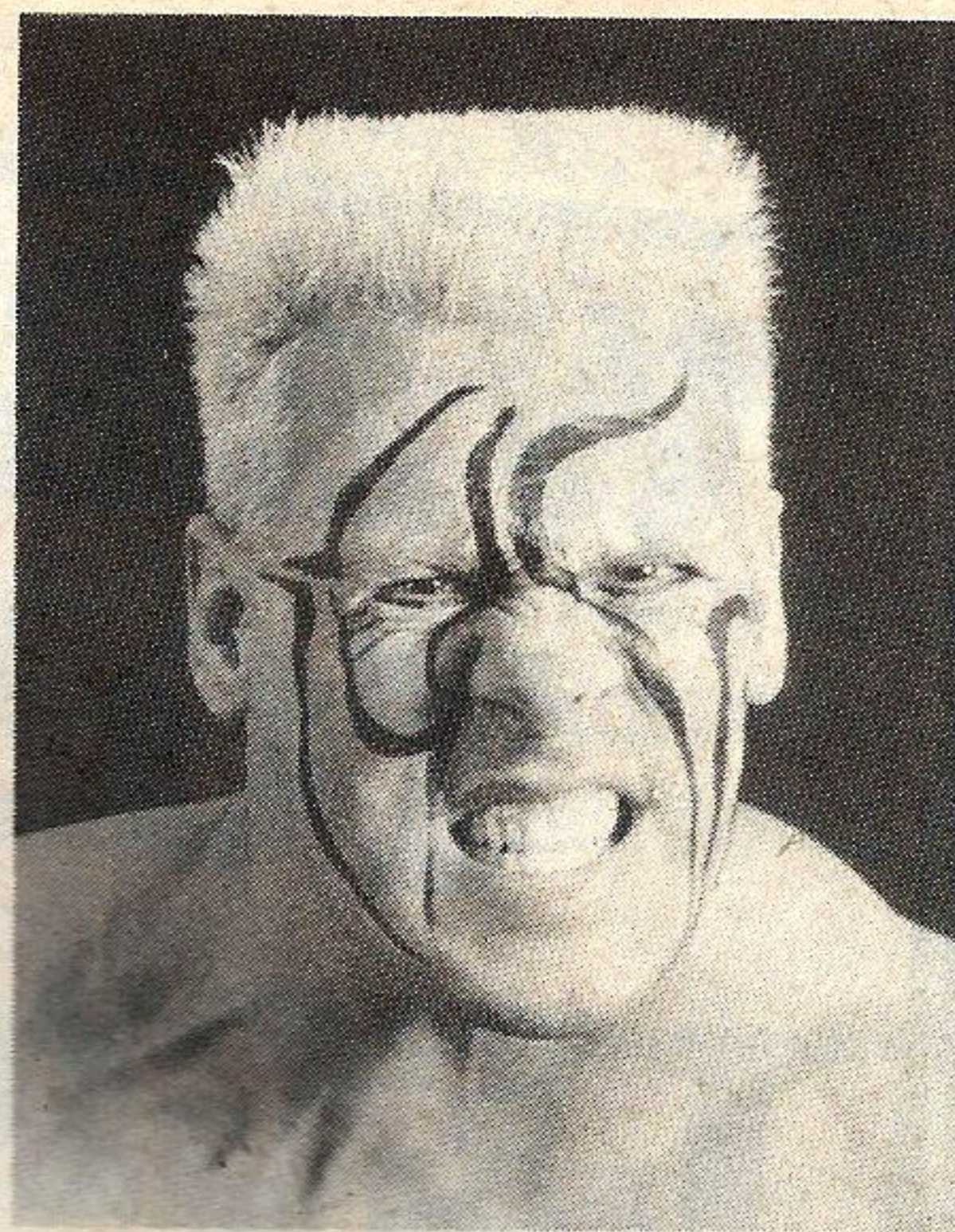
the bravest men that I've ever been involved with. They'd go to the ends of the earth to fight for what's right, and I'm proud to be one of 'em.

Q: Sure. And I'm proud to be a former Boy Scout. Let's get on to your match with Flair. Frankly, I think you're coming back too soon in general. But to get into the ring against a man like Flair—a man who possesses the best figure-four leglock in the history of this sport—is suicide. You *know* that he's going to go after your left knee as soon as he gets the opportunity.

A: For once, you're right about something, Ellner. Flair is going to try to cripple me again. And if you really believe that I'm not prepared for everything he can dish out, then you're crazier than I already thought you were. Flair is a great wrestler. He may be the best technical grappler of modern times. But instead of relying on the skills that made him great, he's turned into a caricature of himself. He's only as good as the other Horsemen make him. When's the last time Flair scored a clean pinfall over *anybody*? He couldn't even put me out of action without having three other guys help him out. But when I wrestle Flair, it's going to be one on one, man against man. And if you ask me, we're one man short.

Q: Let's put everything in a best-case scenario, as far as you're concerned. Let's say you wrestle Flair and beat him for the NWA World title. What kind of a champion would Sting make? What goals do you have for the future?

A: I've got plenty of plans for the future. First of all, this injury has made me very aware of how important it is to be healthy. I don't think you'll ever see me suffer another injury as bad as this ruptured patella, because I'm going to be looking out for myself a little harder in the future. Secondly, I'm going to be the greatest fighting



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I'm going to be the
greatest fighting
champion the NWA
has ever seen. No
ducking opponents. No
hiding behind others.
”

champion the NWA has ever seen. No more ducking opponents. No more hiding behind others. If Flair wants a title shot, he'll get it. If the NWA says that Arn Anderson or Sid Vicious should get the shots, then they'll get it.

Q: But how about your old friend Lex Luger? What if the NWA says he should get a match? He is the U.S. champion, you know.

A: Then he will get his match. It's as simple as that. I'm not backing down from anybody. Hey, Ellner, can I ask you for a favor?

Q: What do you want?

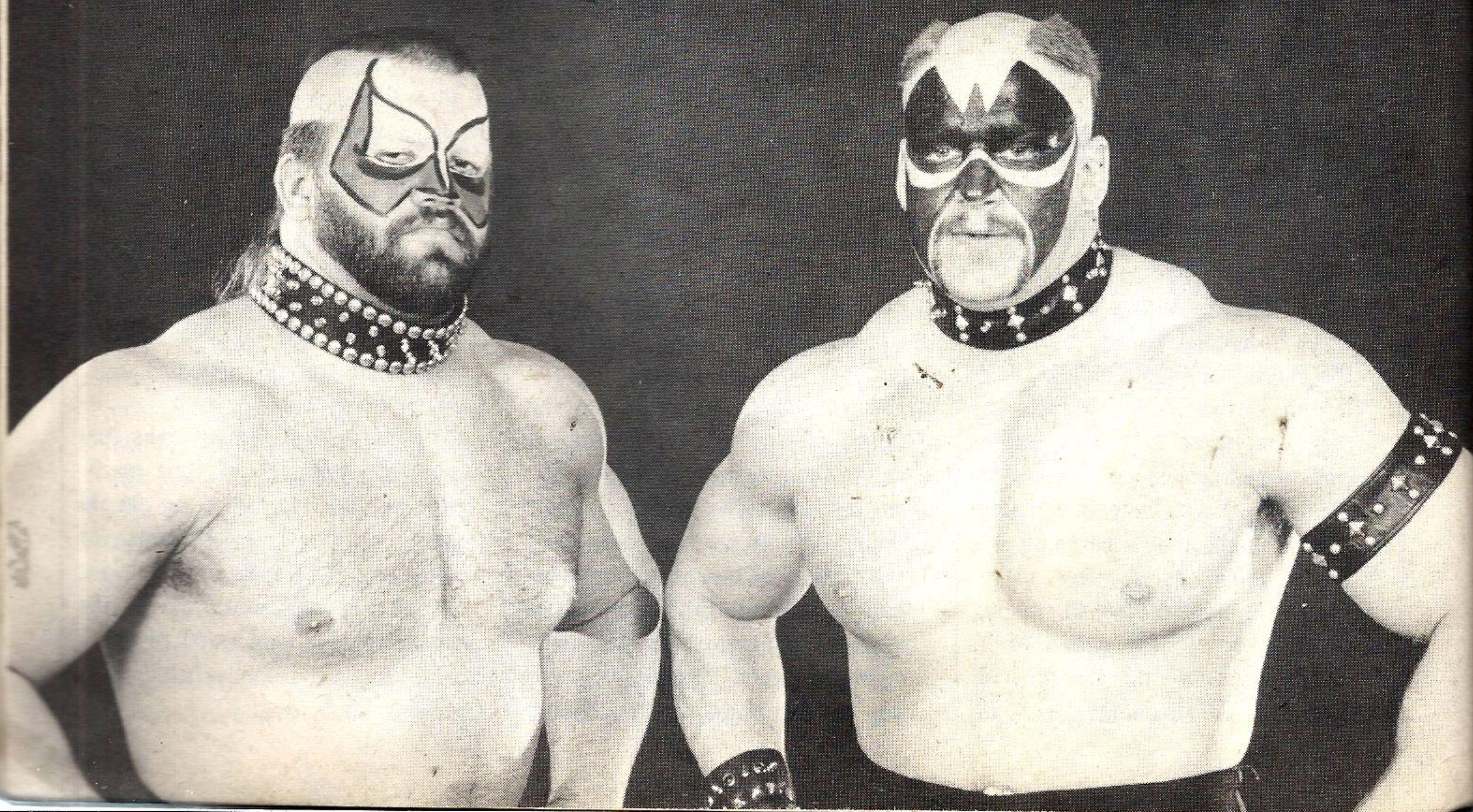
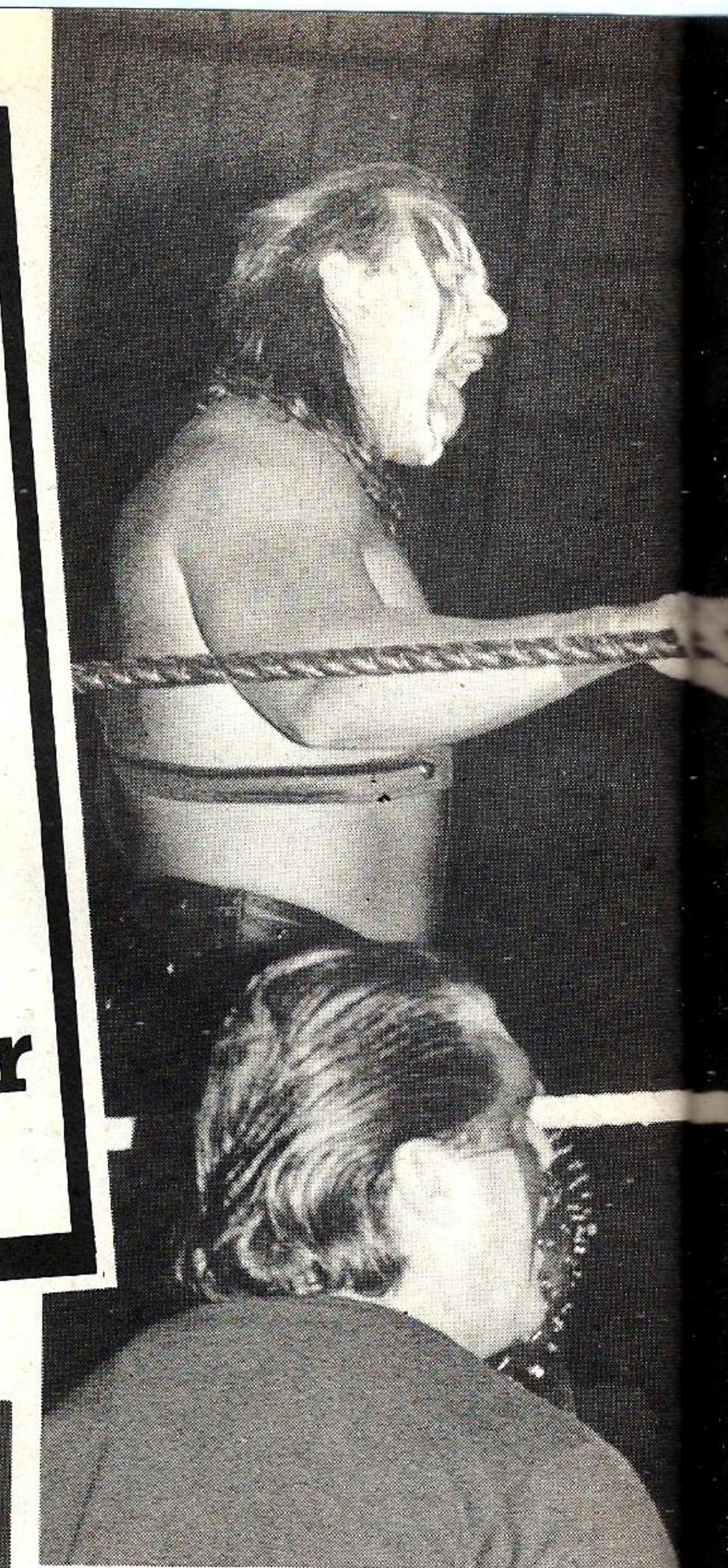
A: Not much. Just remind Saks that the next time I grant your magazine an interview that he should send Apter, or Rosenbaum, or *anybody* else—anybody but you, okay? I've had more fun at the dentist having root canal done.

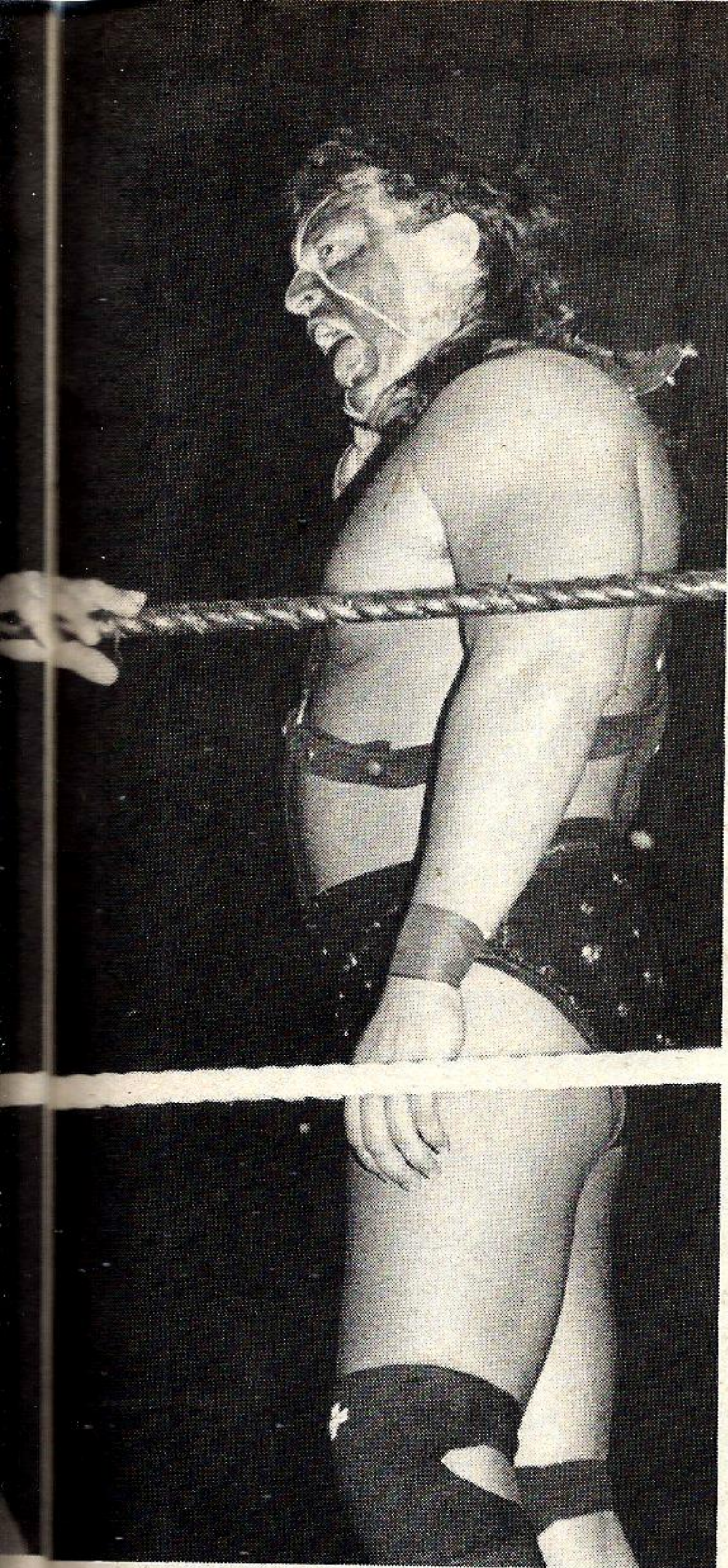
Q: Fine by me. Good luck, pal—you're gonna need it. □

WARNING TO THE LEGION OF DOOM

**Recruit A Third Member
To Counter Demolition**

When Hawk and Animal (below) entered the WWF, they immediately faced the threat of Demolition (above, with new member Crush on the right).





By Craig Peters

FOR JUST A moment, let your imagination run wild. Place yourself in Ax or Smash's position and consider what the fear must have felt like.

You're riding high with a WWF World tag team belt around your waist. But you know that you can't allow yourself the luxury of enjoying that feeling, because you're the target of every team in the federation.

And—verbally, at least—you're also the target of one team that has never been in the federation, yet has been a constant source of irritation:

The Road Warriors.

You remember those early days well, don't you? The constant

It's finally happened—The Road Warriors have invaded the WWF! Their prime target, of course, is Demolition. But the WWF World tag team champions have added a third man to their squad, and now The Legion of Doom must do the same— or risk total destruction!

jeers, the snide innuendos, the blatant insults. "Demolition? What a joke! A couple of Road Warrior imitations! *Hahaha!* Hawk and Animal would clean their clocks without even breaking sweat!"

Oh, how those taunts got under your skin! But you showed them all, didn't you? Three WWF World tag team titles later, you showed every last one of them. Imitations? Not by a long shot. You're the real thing, and you have the gold belts to prove it.

But now Hawk and Animal are headed to the WWF, and you know that you're their number-one priority. Sure, they're coming in without their manager, Paul Ellering, but they're not to be taken lightly. They're former NWA and AWA World tag team champions. They're four-time Tag Team of the Year honorees. Since their debut, they've set the pace of tag team wrestling for the entire world, for God's sake!

What to do?

Shore up the defenses.

Add a third member to your team to watch your back, to help orchestrate a three-on-one or three-on-two attack.

And, if you're lucky—very lucky—you'll have WWF President Jack Tunney going along with your decision to add a third man to your championship team. Have any two of the three of you defend those tag team belts, make sure that the man most in need of rest

is on the sidelines while the two freshest men do battle.

Now you're ready to face Hawk and Animal.

●

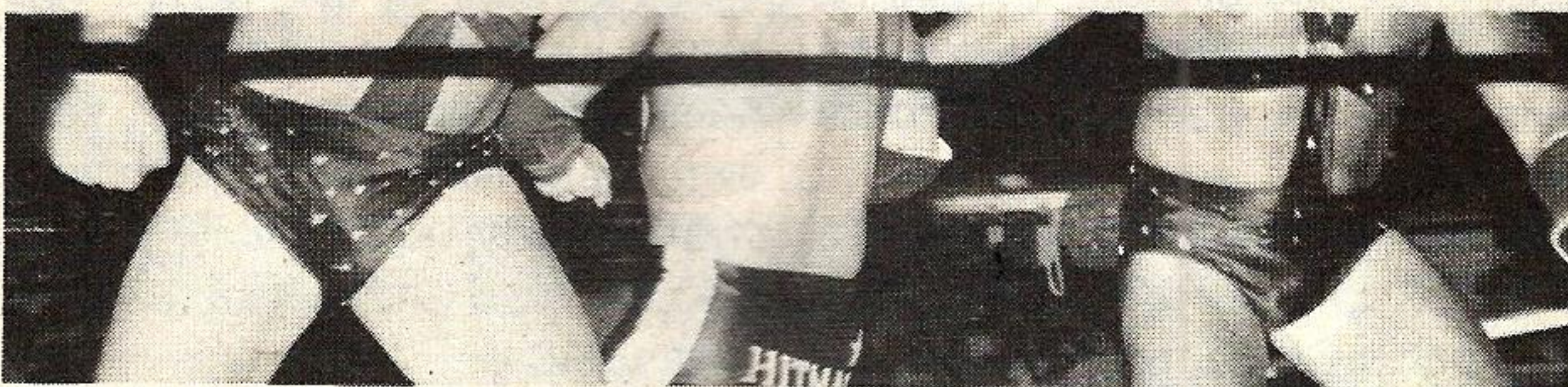
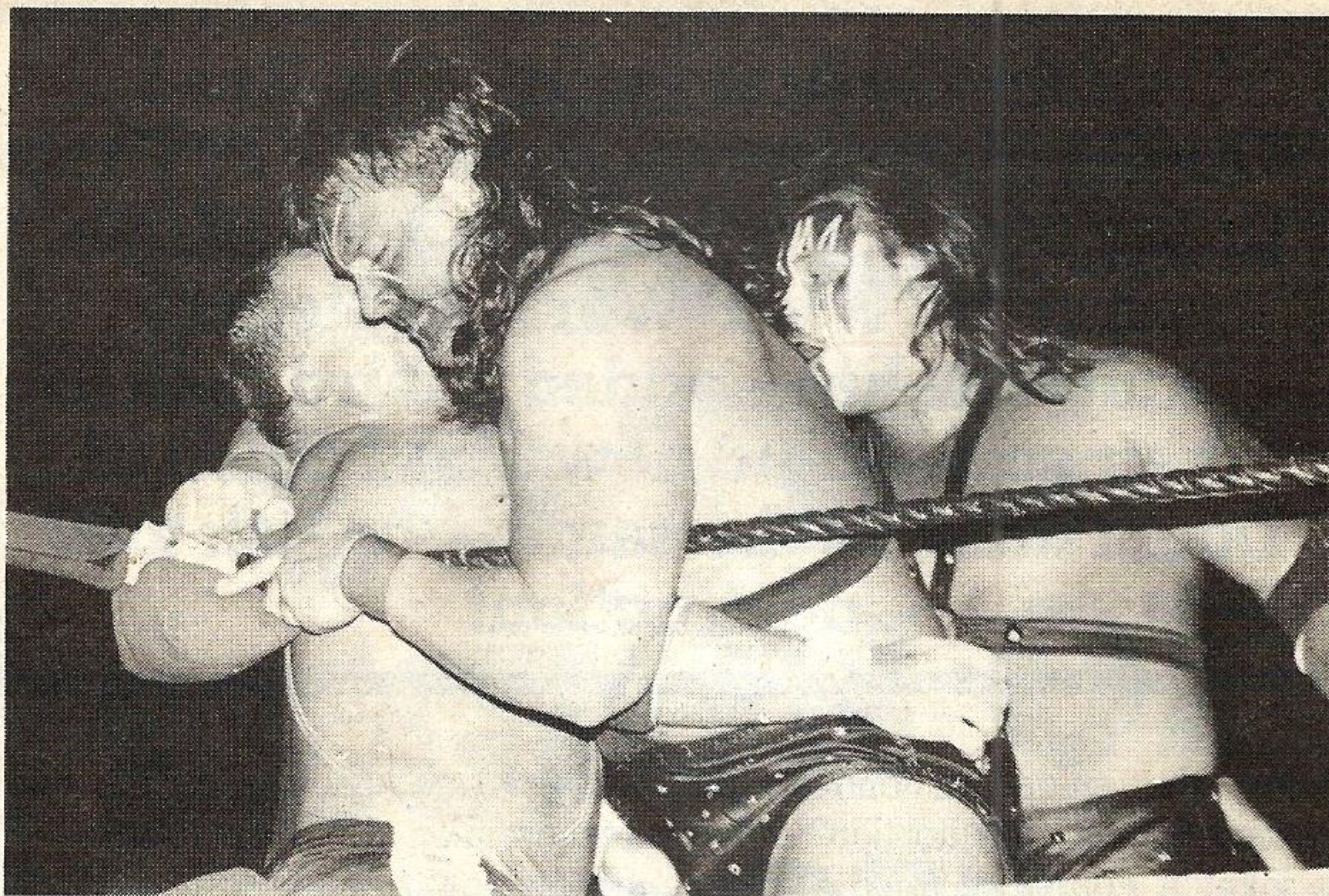
For another moment, let your imagination run wild once again. Place yourself in Hawk or Animal's position and consider what you're up against.

You're new to the WWF. You have a lot to prove, and your egos demand that you prove it on your own. Demolition has copied your style for years, and it's time to take that style and shove it right down their throats.

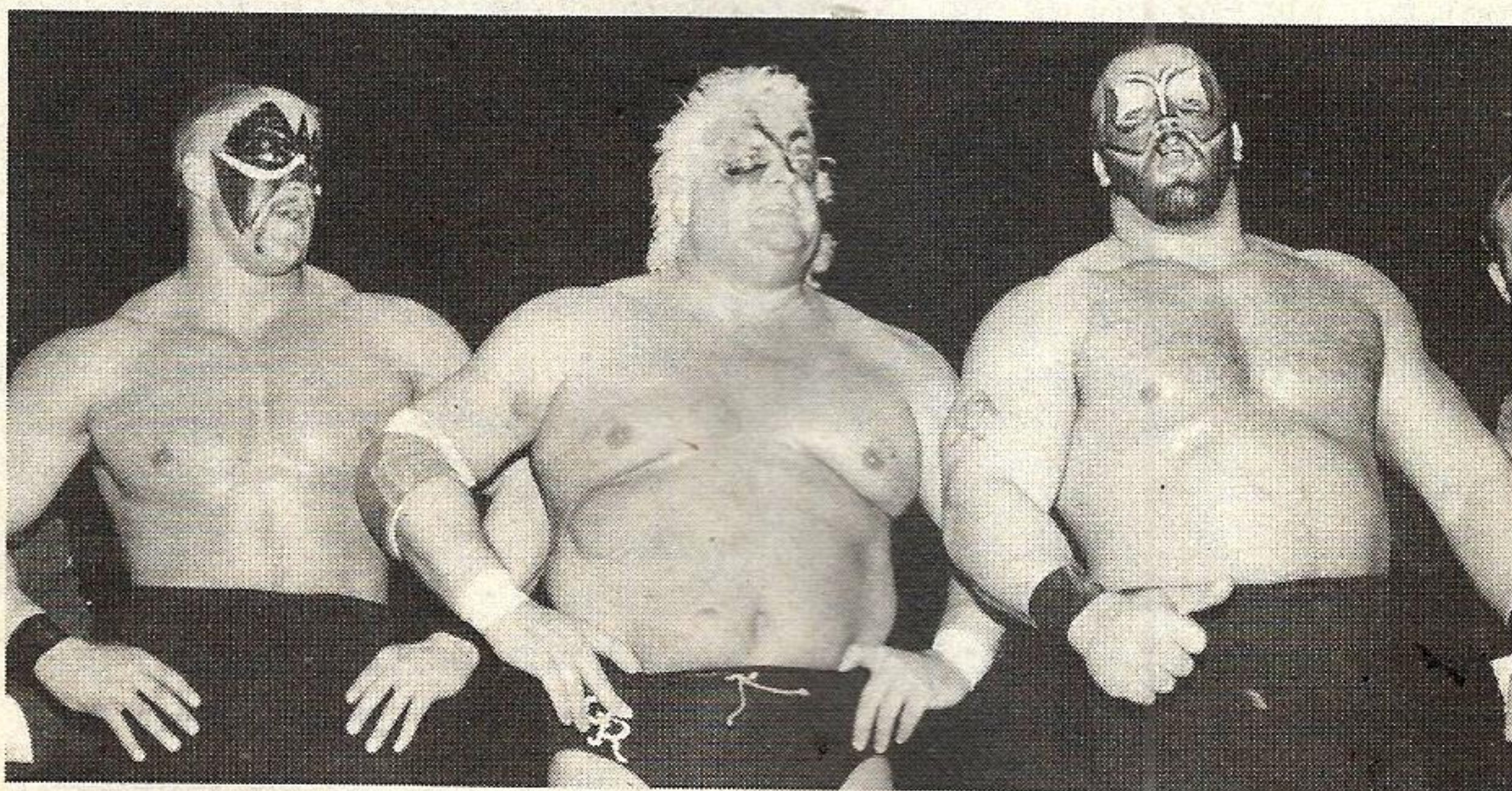
You've done it before. Warlord and Barbarian tried to muscle in on your territory, and you ran them right out of the NWA.

And what are three WWF tag team titles when placed against universal recognition as the most awesome tag team of all time? When you snack on danger and dine on death, what hope do a couple of punk imitators have? Let them sidle on up to the banquet table to feast on your smorgasbord of violence, as Paul Ellering used to call it; they'll quickly learn what it means to take on the legendary LOD, whether it's Ax and Smash or Ax, Smash, and Crush. Two, three, or 10—bring 'em on!

Except you know better. You suspect, deep down, that the rumors of you having lost your killer instinct may be true. You suspect, because it's been so long since



The "new" Demolition of Crush and Smash have been particularly rough on The Hart Foundation (top and above), their current number-one contenders.



To counter the Demolition threesome, Hawk and Animal might consider recruiting Dusty Rhodes, their partner during two NWA six-man title reigns (above).

you've held one of those world belts. You suspect, because you've been sliding south in the tag team ratings for nearly a year.

You also know that you shouldn't ignore that warning sig-

nal screaming in your brain, that signal that howls: "Three on two is lousy odds, no matter *who* you are!"

You've been in the sport since 1983, but you've seen your share

of legends fall: Ric Flair has become a cowering shadow of his former championship greatness; Dusty Rhodes has become a polka-dotted joke; even Hulk Hogan, that legend of legends, has been pinned.

You know something has to be done.

Because, deep down, you know you're not ready to face Demolition.

The answer is obvious: Hawk and Animal must even the odds. They must recruit a third member into The Legion of Doom in order to face Demolition's three-man squad on its own terms.

Who could that third member be?

There are many possibilities. Warlord and Barbarian are both in the WWF, and either one of them might be persuaded to bury his past differences with The Legion of Doom in order to heighten his position in the federation. Dusty Rhodes once teamed with the Warriors in the NWA; that trio held the NWA six-man title on two occasions. Jake Roberts was a stablemate of Hawk and Animal's when Paul Ellering originally formed the Legion of Doom collective. Perhaps even The Ultimate Warrior could be persuaded to ease up on his formidable schedule of title defenses and lend Hawk and Animal an occasional hand against Ax, Smash, and Crush.

But no matter whom they choose, Hawk and Animal must choose *somebody*—and they must do so quickly.

Because Demolition has already taken the first step in this war. They've already placed The Legion of Doom on the defensive. They're ready and waiting for Hawk and Animal.

And as they begin their stay in the WWF, Hawk and Animal are already in the unenviable position of having to play catch-up. □

The telephone wires sizzle every month as two top wrestlers voice their rage and hostility toward each other. This is the unedited transcript of their conversation, your chance to see the raw emotion that results when two antagonists face off . . . One on One

SOME CALL THE dispute between Toni Adams and Jeannie more intense than any feud between two men. Others say it doesn't belong anywhere near a wrestling ring.

Matt Brock calls it "the battle of the broads."

It all began late last year, when Toni began accompanying her husband, Chris Adams, to the ring in his war against the forces of Tojo Yamamoto. Soon, Toni was getting directly involved; as Tojo would tell you, she wields a mean kendo stick.

When that feud subsided, Toni left the action behind while Chris got into a feud with Steve Austin, the first-ever graduate of Adams' wrestling school. Eager to gain any advantage on his former teacher, Austin devised a nasty psychological ploy; he began coming to the ring with Jeannie, Adams' ex-wife. Not surprisingly, her interference cost Adams several key matches.

Seeing what was happening to her husband, Toni decided she had to get involved again. It wasn't long before the two headstrong women developed an intense hatred for each other. On at least three occasions, Jeannie and Toni got into scraps even before the matches between Adams and Austin had officially begun. It got so bad that USWA official John Brazzel had to order them back to the dressing room so the regular matches could begin.

Toni and Jeannie have been so eager to slug it out in person that it wasn't difficult to persuade them to trade barbs over the phone . . . "One On One."

ONE ON ONE



"I'm gonna convince these USWA boobs to sanction a match between you and me. It'll be my pleasure to dig my fingernails into your putrid flesh, you worm!"

—Jeannie

JEANNIE:

Well, well, if it isn't Chrissie Adams' little girl. When are you going to learn to stay away from the ring when my man Steve is busy busting your hubbie's head open?

TONI ADAMS:

You've got me wrong, Jeannie with the dyed-blond hair. I have nothing against Mr. Austin whatsoever. I know that Chris is man enough to take him every time, if he ever gets a fair fight, that is. No, the person I'm dying to sink my nails into is you, babe. Chris has made it obvious he wants nothing to do with you anymore. Why can't you just fade into the sunset like a good ex-wife should?

J: Honey, I'm not one to fade away.

I've got the goods on that husband of yours that'll shock you and all his worthless fans. You thought you married Jack Armstrong, but I know the *real* story. Chris is more afraid of me than of any man he's feuded with, except for Steve, of course. God, it feels good to be with a *real* man for a change.

TA: Your claims are just worthless words, honey. Chris Adams is the most honorable man I've ever known. What's in the past is in the past, as far as I'm concerned, and you can just go ahead and work on that book you've been threatening to write. The biggest thing on my mind is how you've been interfering on behalf of Mr. Austin, a man who my husband

ON ONE



"Chris [Adams] has made it obvious he wants nothing to do with you anymore. Why can't you just fade into the sunset like a good ex-wife should?"

—Toni Adams

taught everything he knows. What's the matter, darling? Afraid that Steve can't get the job done on his own?

J: You know, Steve told me what a crummy school Chris ran, how he was never there for his students. Now why doesn't that surprise me? Which means that Steve is practically self-taught, and he's still 10 times better than that scurvy limey. No, getting the job done, as you say, has been no problem for Steve. When I look into Chris' eyes, I see the eyes of a man who knows he's met his match. His career is over, darling. O-V-E-R. As his loving wife, why don't you convince him to retire? I hear Dairy Queen has an opening for crew chief.

TA: *Oooh*, you painted hussy! I wish I was in the same room with you now, because I'd slap the improperly applied makeup right off your skanky face! Comparing my man Chris to Steve Austin is like comparing a brand-new Rolls Royce to a used '74 Pinto. One's the cream of the crop, while the other one is a lemon, as they say.

J: You'll eat those words soon enough, dear. Someday soon, I'm gonna convince these USWA boobs to sanction a match between you and me, one on one. I'll even let you choose the rules, that's not important. But one thing I won't let you have is that kendo stick. Have the guts to use your bare hands. You won't be fighting a fat old man like Yama-

moto. It'll be my pleasure to dig my fingernails into your putrid flesh, you worm!

TA: And I can't wait for that opportunity. But I want to you make me a promise, little Miss Management. When I finally get around to fighting you right and proper, I want you to come into that ring like the woman you profess to be. No cans full of hair spray, babe. In fact, I don't want there to be foreign objects of *any* kind. I want it to be just me against you, and let the best woman emerge victorious.

J: There's no doubt the victories—every last one of them—will be mine. And when I'm through with you, Steve and I will begin a dynasty the likes of which these Texas peons have never seen. When I was with Chris, he always told me how one day he'd be a star. For a while, I believed him, but it didn't take me very long to wise up. I soon realized that Chris didn't have the guts to be a true champion. He was too cozy with those Von Erich boys. That's one mistake we'll never make.

TA: That's right. If you ever tried to get near the Von Erichs, they'd throw you right on your oversized butt. You know, dear Jean, the biggest problem you have is that you've always wanted everything handed to you on a silver platter. Chris has told me all about what a money-grabber you were during your marriage to him. Well, things just don't work out that way in the wrestling world. As you can tell by all the times Chris has beaten Steve, it takes more than lust for money to win the big matches. You've got to have heart—*fighting* heart—and that's something you'll never have, missy.

J: I don't have to listen to any more of this! I'll see you at the Sportatorium this Friday, my dear. Here's one last warning: If you so much as lay a hand on my Steve, or look at me the wrong way, I'll hand you the most frightful beating of your life! As for Chris, tell him to give it up before it's too late!

TA: You know something? You're a witch.

J: You're slime.

TA: And you're *dead*. See you Friday, hon. Bring reinforcements. □

SINCERELY YOURS

(Continued from page 5)

say about Hulk Hogan, Ultimate Warrior, or any other wrestler he doesn't care for. On *Prime-Time Wrestling*, he joked about Hogan's injury at the hands of Earthquake.

Carl says an announcer should be unbiased and neutral. Monsoon could be more like that if he didn't have to sit beside "The Boob."

KEMO FRANSON
DuBois, PA

TESSA'S A WINNER

Tessa is the prettiest woman in wrestling. When she first appeared with John Tatum, I thought she would be another Missy Hyatt. When she left Tatum for Bill Dundee, it was like Missy going to Eddie Gilbert.

I think Tessa will help Dundee. She reminds me of another darling of the sport, Sunshine.

Tessa has the right stuff to be a big success in this sport.

JOE McDANIEL
Hillsboro, TX

HOW RUDE

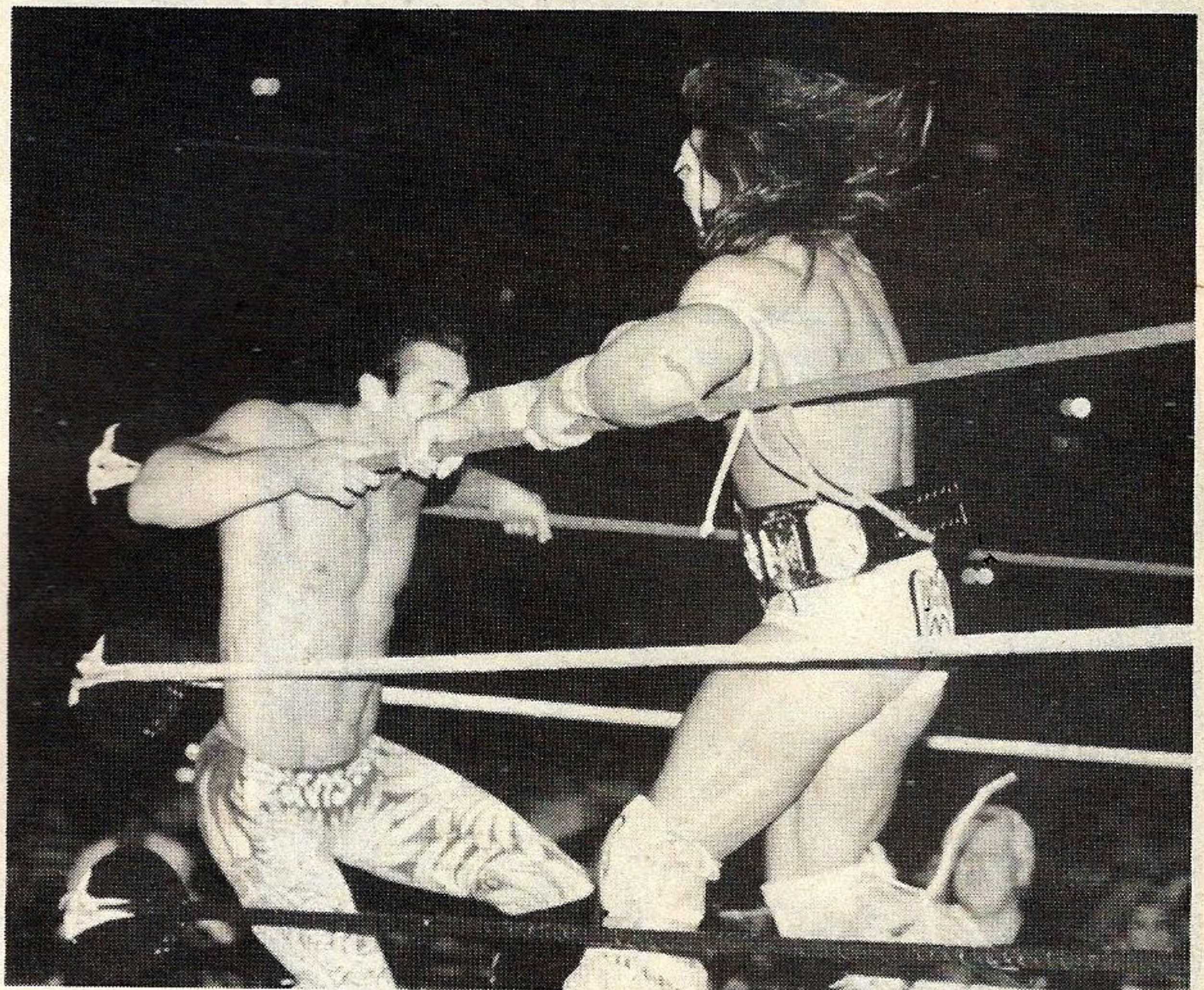
I'm getting tired of seeing Rick Rude strutting his scrawny body across my television screen, wasting my time telling me how he's going to beat The Ultimate Warrior for the WWF World title.

Sure, Rude—with help from that weasel Bobby Heenan—beat Warrior once for the Intercontinental title. I considered that bout a handicap match. Then the Warrior won that belt back and won the World title fair and square from Hulk Hogan, a man *nobody* could beat.

If Rude wins the title, how is he going to face up to the likes of Earthquake, Tugboat, Dusty Rhodes, or Hacksaw Duggan?

All I can say is "Dream on, Rick Rude!" The Ultimate Warrior is the best WWF champion ever to walk the earth!

CYNDY BOKKER
Winnebago, IL



There's no way Rick Rude will ever beat The Ultimate Warrior for the WWF World title, in reader Cyndy Bokker's opinion.

A VIEW FROM GERMANY

As a German wrestling fan, I am very glad that I found your magazine. You report from all sides in a balanced way. In Germany, the information about the sport is extremely bad.

Since the introduction of cable-TV, we have seen many bouts from the WWF, but very few from the NWA. In my view, the WWF stands for comedy. That's not bad; sometimes I like it. People like The Bushwhackers are great! But, on the other hand, I like to see hard-fought matches once in a while, like a Ric Flair NWA World title defense.

DIRK WEDELL
Dortmund, West Germany

THE GOOD OL' DAYS

Have you noticed that every time it looks as though the NWA is bowing to the pressure of the WWF, they do a complete turnaround and prove that they are, as they have always been, the number-one federation in wrestling?

Though I've been watching wrestling
(Continued on page 48)

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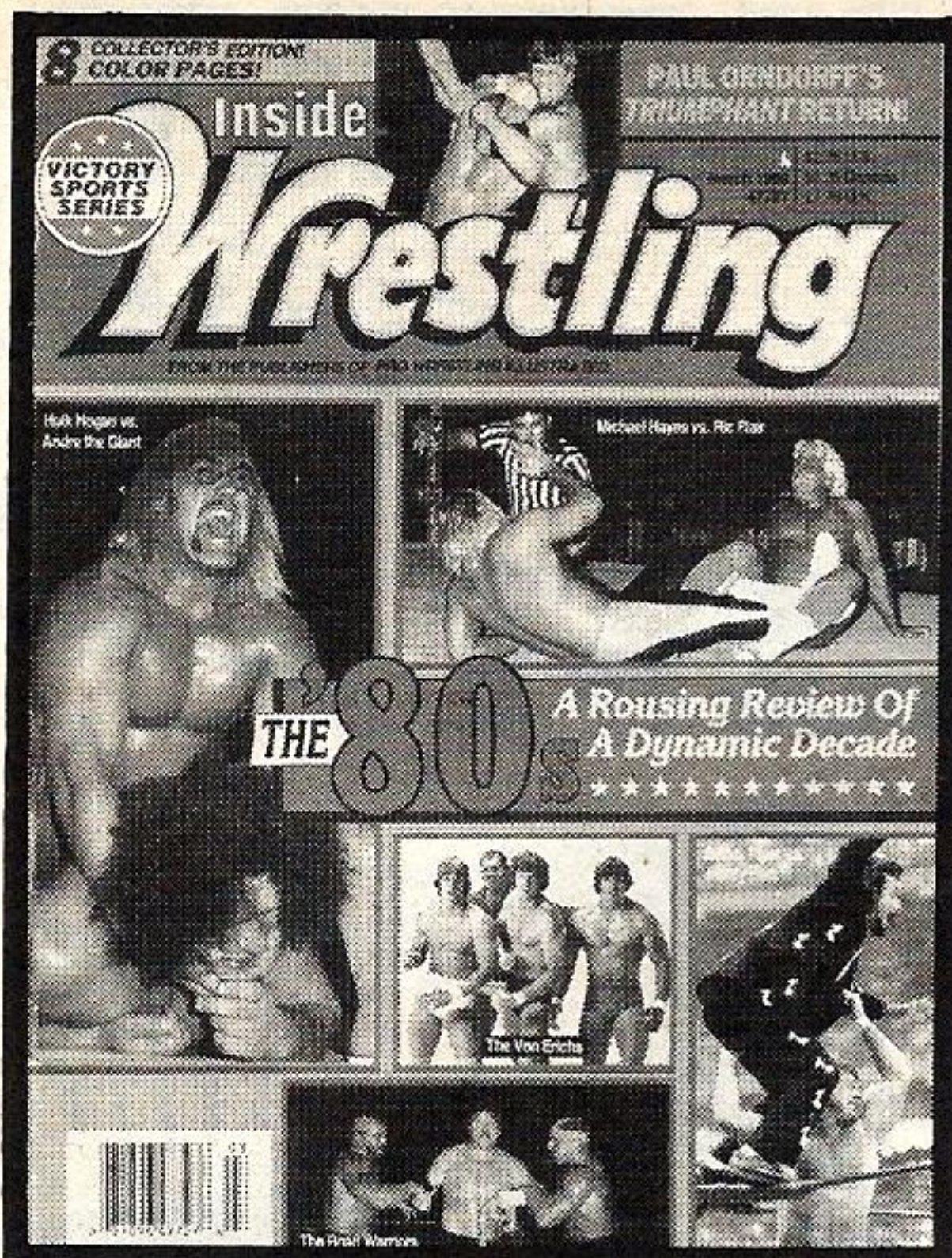
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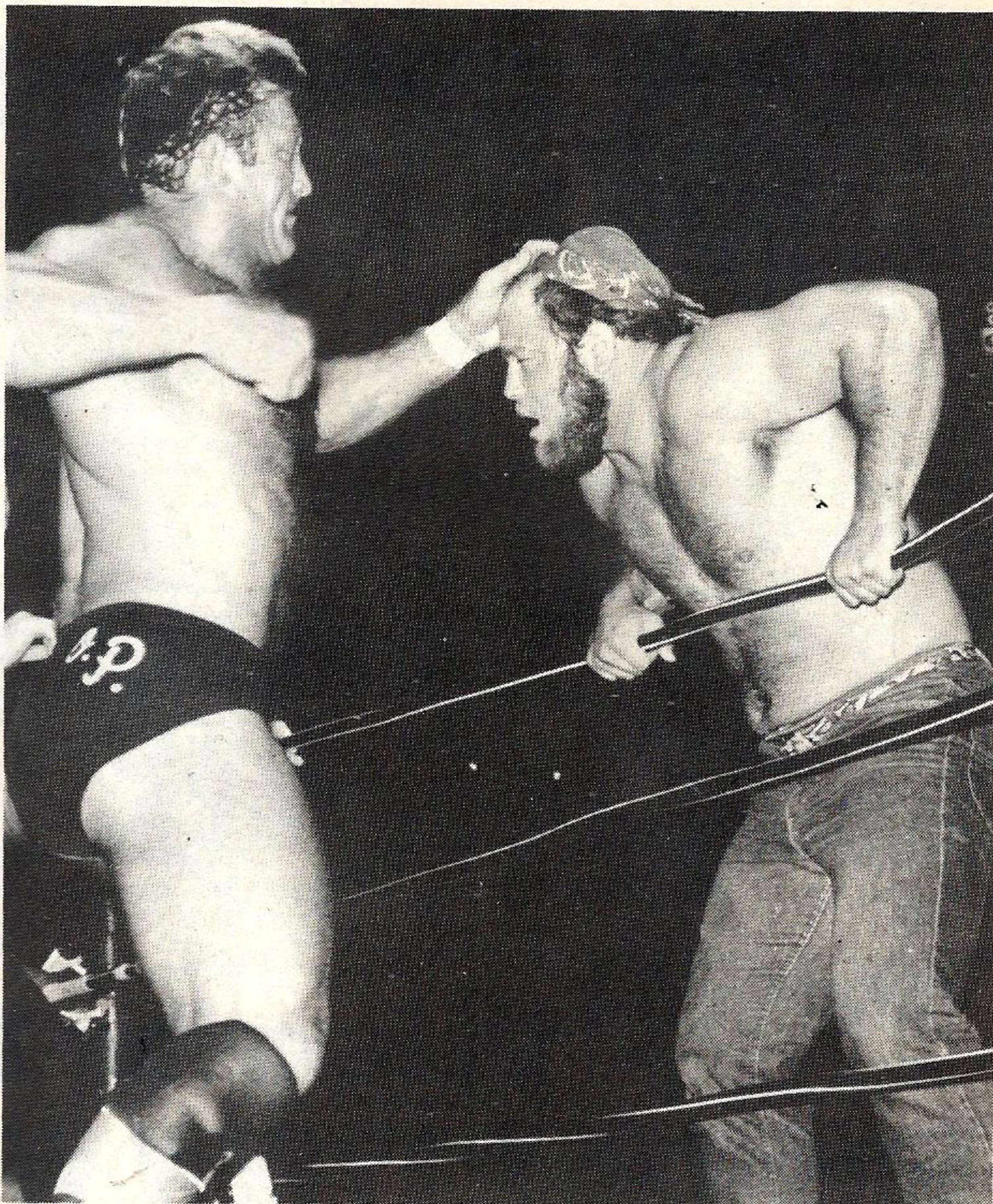
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SINCERELY YOURS

(Continued from page 46)



Paul Orndorff and Buzz Sawyer battled frequently in Georgia in the early 1980s. Reader Brian Halk is glad Orndorff and other stars of that era have returned to the NWA.

since 1972, I've been a die-hard fan since the early '80s, due mainly to the excitement generated by *Georgia Championship Wrestling* on SuperStation TBS. No matter what was happening on Saturday evening, I made sure I was by the TV at 6:05 for two hours of great action.

And now, many of the top stars of those days—like Stan Hansen, Paul Orndorff, Junkyard Dog, and Tommy Rich—are returning, bringing the area back to the level of excitement it had 10 years ago.

Now if they could just bring back Harley Race, Ted DiBiase, Tony Atlas, Masked Superstar . . .

BRIAN HALK
 Springfield, OH

THE NEW GIANT

Last night I watched Clash of the Champions XI: Coastal Crush and I was awed by El Gigante. He is truly the giant of all giants; he made ring announcer Gary Cappetta look like Lord Littlebrook!

Even though I'm speechless about this huge grappler, it's not good to overestimate a wrestler because of his size or strength, especially when not much is known about his ability inside the ring.

All I can say is, I hope he remains a friendly giant. May he reach for the sky; the stretch shouldn't be too far away!

TONY KARANTONIS
 Willow Street, PA ☐

DRESSING ROOM DOOR

(Continued from page 8)

what I did," The Trooper said. "I don't make no excuses for nothing."

What's interesting is how the approaches of these men differ from fellow AWA wrestlers who did not serve.

"War is war and wrestling is wrestling," Nikita said. "People say they are similar. They are not. The only thing similar is the dedication that goes into training. But that is something a person has or doesn't have."

"I am in America now," said Von Raschke, "and there is no reason for me to do the things I did in East Germany. I am proud of what has happened there recently, but I had nothing to do with it. I am an East German wrestling in America. That is all."

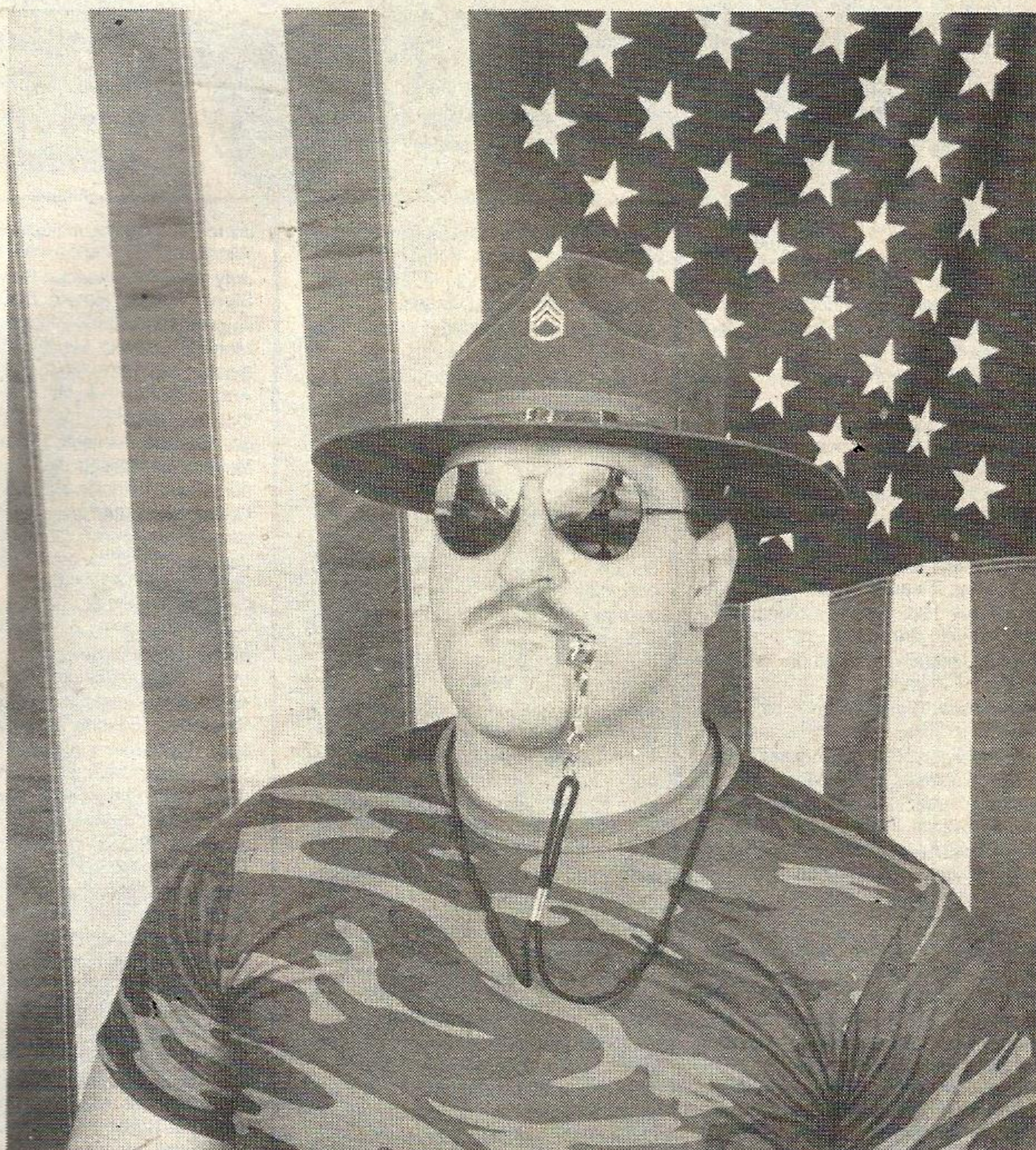
The Sarge, of course, wears his war years on his sleeve. It is what he is most proud of.

"Service to country is the greatest thing a man can do with his life," Slaughter said. "I've done a lot in wrestling, but nothing I've done compares to what I've done for the United States of America. When I see Old Glory, a tear still comes to my eye."

DeBeers, of course, is another story. The South African government is still guilty of heinous offenses and DeBeers' pride is the pride of a criminal.

Pride, however, is one thing all five wrestlers have in common. Not only pride in their countries, but pride in themselves. They have been taught to respect their bodies and themselves. They walk into the ring supremely confident of victory; they have been trained to win.

Now, look at some of the more slovenly characters in the AWA: World champion Larry Zbyszko is an embarrassment to himself and



Sgt. Slaughter's years in the Marine Corps gave him the discipline that is a vital part of his ring success. Perhaps Slaughter can give a dose of discipline to Larry Zbyszko.

the federation. Kokina 'Maximus' has no interest in improving his physique. Others, including John Nord and D.J. Peterson, have spent ages trying to find themselves.

That's not to say that enlisting yourself in the Army is the shortest route to self-pride and discipline. But there appears to be a connection.

It's been said that former football players make the best wrestlers. Maybe that can be said for former enlisted men, too.

"I think there's a point to be made there," said Verne Gagne. "Of course, we're currently in a time of peace, and let's hope it stays that way. But training meth-

ods for the armed forces are similar to training methods for the ring. Both also require intense dedication and concentration. The mental training aspects are similar, too."

Zbyszko, naturally, disagrees. "The Army burns a man's mind," he said. "I don't need to be brainwashed. I got my own ideas and I don't want to be molded."

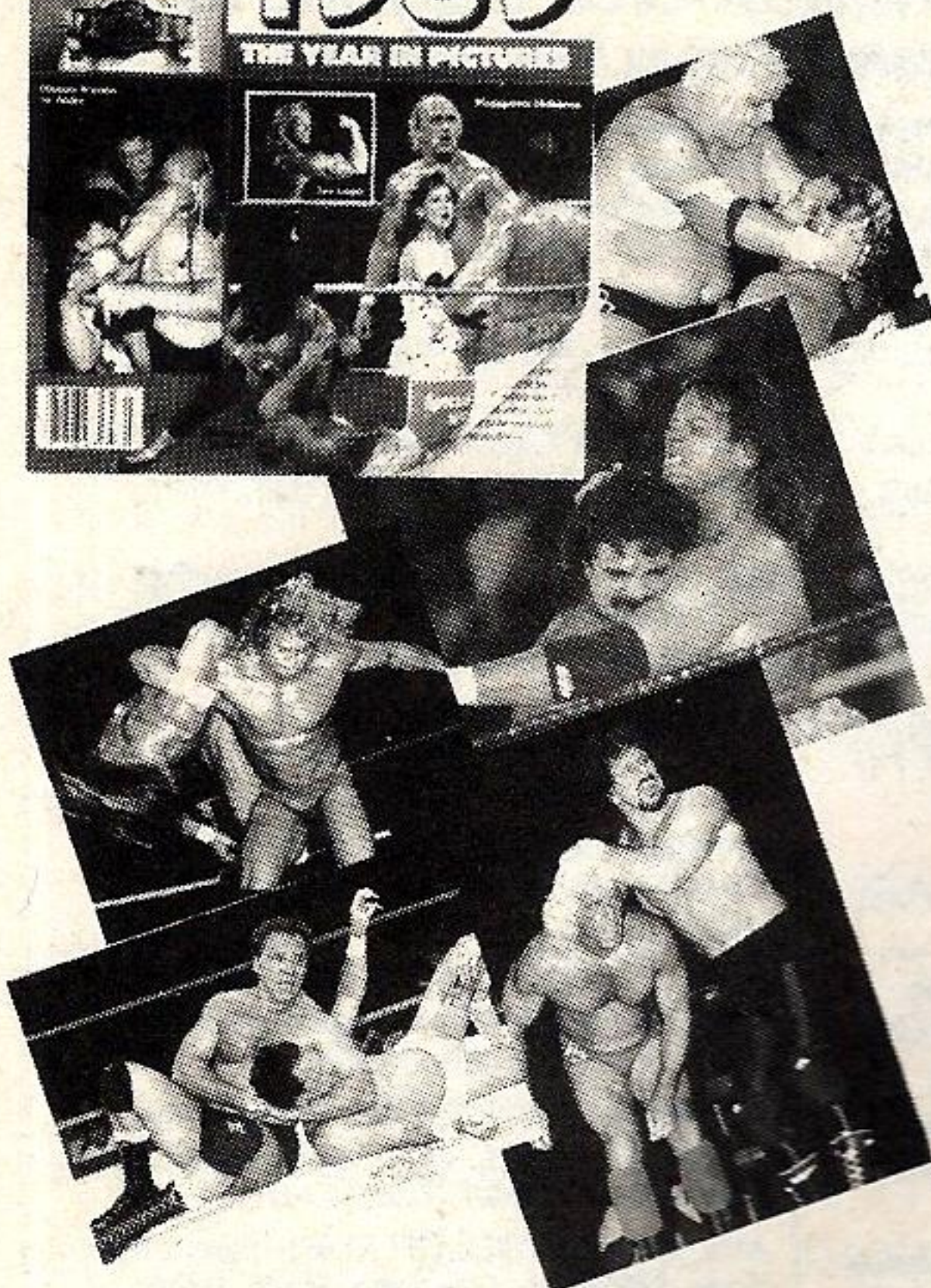
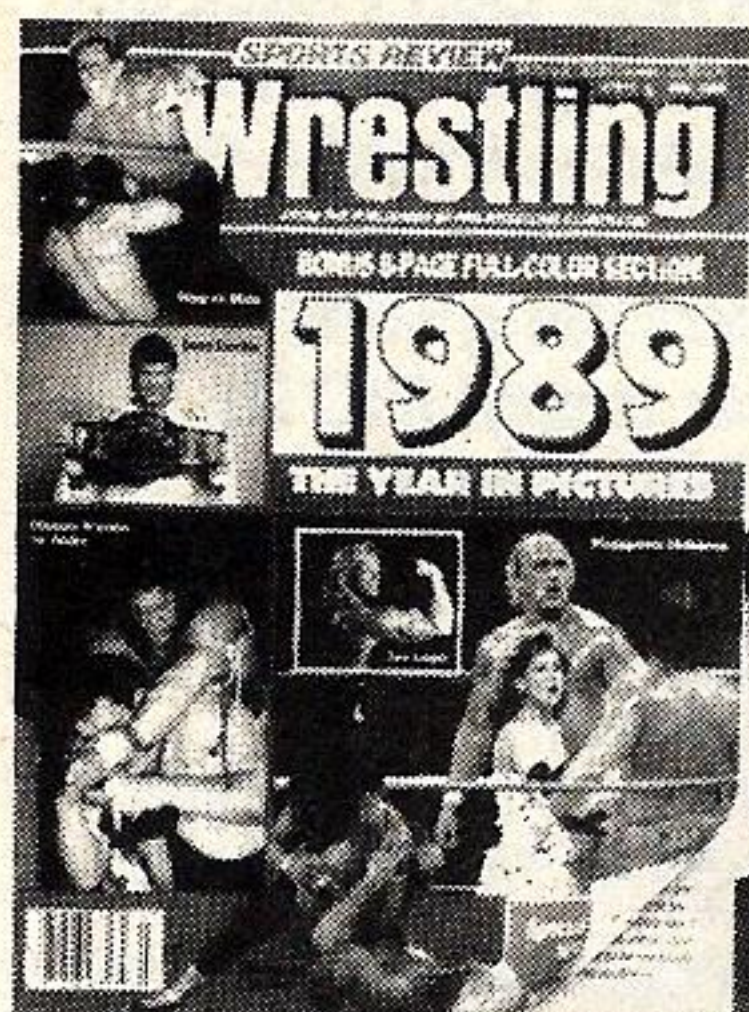
Molded into what? A champion who has respect for the title and doesn't devalue it by constantly getting himself disqualified? Zbyszko can use some molding.

Koloff, Von Raschke, Slaughter ... go to it! Turn Zbyszko into a man!

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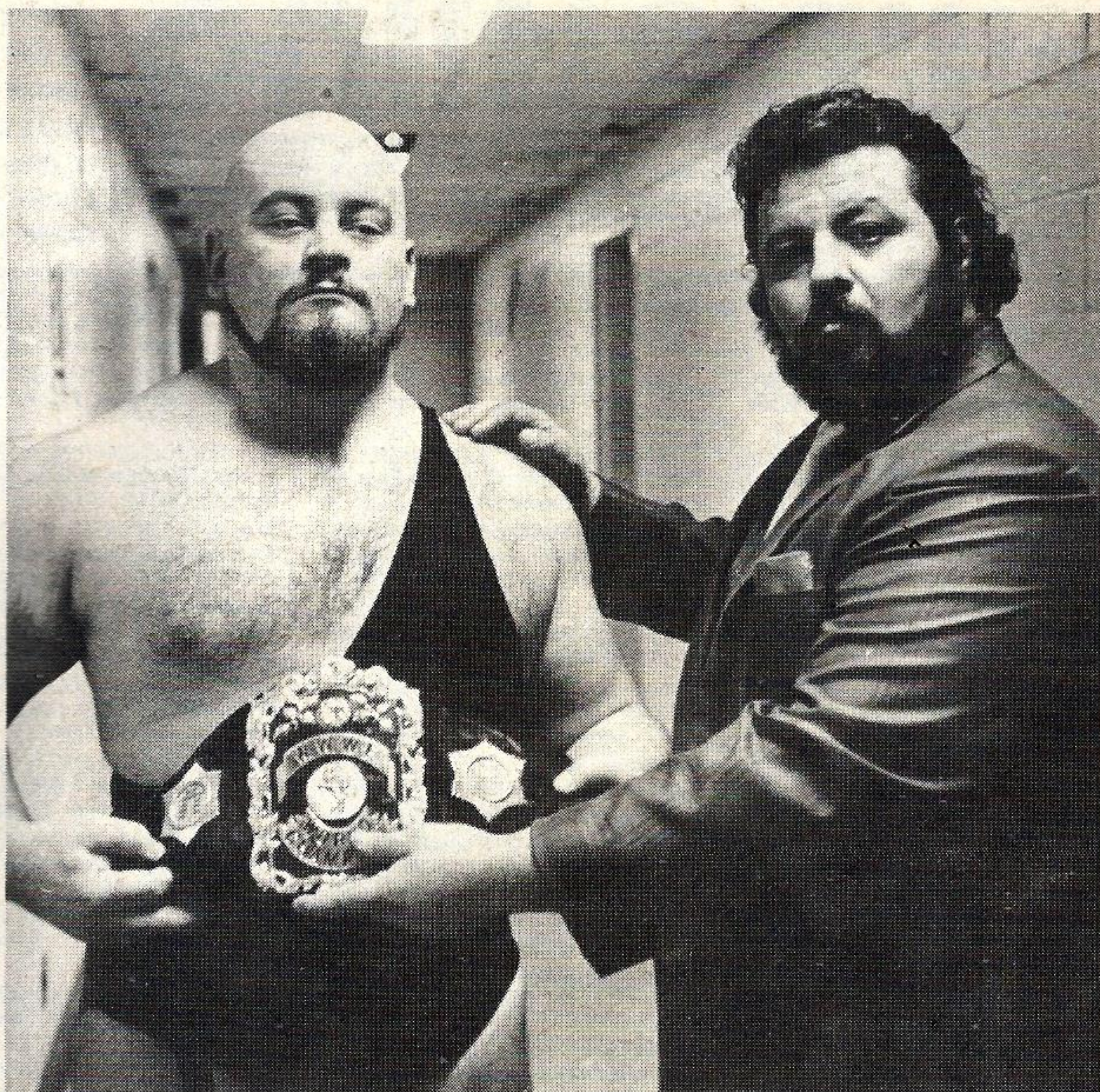
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THE INSIDER

(Continued from page 14)



When Capt. Lou Albano led Ivan Koloff to the WWF title in 1971, Soviet grapplers were at the height of their unpopularity.

news for everyone except bomb shelter builders, Pentagon-lifers and, finally getting to the point of this column, Russian professional wrestlers.

"The money was brought in by U-Haul and thrown at us," recalls Capt. Lou Albano, discussing the days in the early '70s when promoters begged him for the services of the Russian grapplers he managed. "One promoter even promised he'd smuggle Ivan Koloff's entire family out of the Soviet Union if only Koloff would sign a lifetime services contract. Nothing could incite a crowd more back then than a foreign wrestler. For promoters, having a Russian on the card almost guaranteed a sellout."

Albano wistfully recalls the days when he and Koloff were literally run off the road by irate fans. "Koloff triggered the worst fears in

American fans," he says. "When he beat Bruno Sammartino for the WWF title, it was like Russian tanks had rolled into New York City and pointed their guns at the Statue of Liberty."

That, as the saying goes, was then. This is now.

Today, Russia is chic. There are Russian calendar girls and rock 'n' roll groups. Billy Joel and Bon Jovi include Moscow on their tour itineraries. McDonald's will soon clog Russian arteries and make our people and theirs comrades in heart disease.

In light of all this *friendship*, what's a big, bad Russkie rule-breaker to do? Well, if you're Nikita Koloff and your homeland is suddenly in fashion, then you get into fashion, too:

Nikita Koloff tank top: \$8.95; Nikita Koloff T-shirt: \$10.95; Nikita Koloff gym jacket: \$59.95.

Koloff was the first Russian to renounce his homeland and embrace an American lifestyle that would allow him to shop from his television set and avoid the infamous hours-long lines his fellow Russians must endure to buy enough bread for the sandwiches they eat while they wait on line.

Nikita's befriending of Magnum T.A. in 1986 was perhaps the first recorded case of *perestroika*. Of course, the tragic death of Nikita's wife, Mandy, at the age of 26 forever endeared him in the hearts of sentimental American fans. But the death was a separate island of tragedy that had nothing to do with Nikita's lifestyle change. By the time he and his wife were married, he had already fully bought into the American lifestyle.

The most absurd example of anti-communist backlash by a former Russian rulebreaker happens almost nightly in—where else?—the WWF, where fans are treated to Nikolai (Voice Of Doom) Volkoff's vocal mistreatment of our national anthem.

Volkoff, you'll recall, not too long ago used to force fans to endure his mumbling rendition of the Soviet national anthem. He and his tag team partner, The Iron Sheik, used to wave the flags of the Soviet Union and Iran, raising the ire of fans and wrestlers alike.

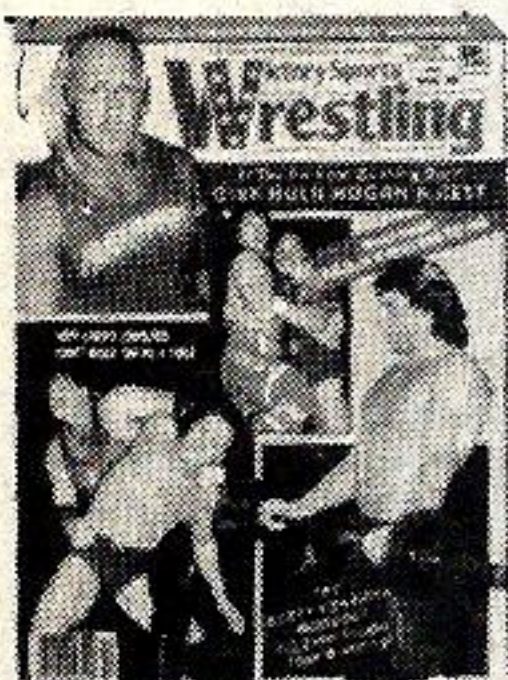
As the wrestling cold war concludes, Sgt. Slaughter is one of the saddest casualties. It was Slaughter who zealously defended American values (with time out for hustling souvenirs; this is, after all, America) against foreign predators like Sheik and Volkoff.

Now Slaughter is stuck in an on-again, off-again feud with professional bigot Col. DeBeers, spokesman for pro-apartheid South Africa.

And you can bet your official Nelson Mandela T-shirt that Sarge and the Colonel are gonna be out of work soon, too. ☐

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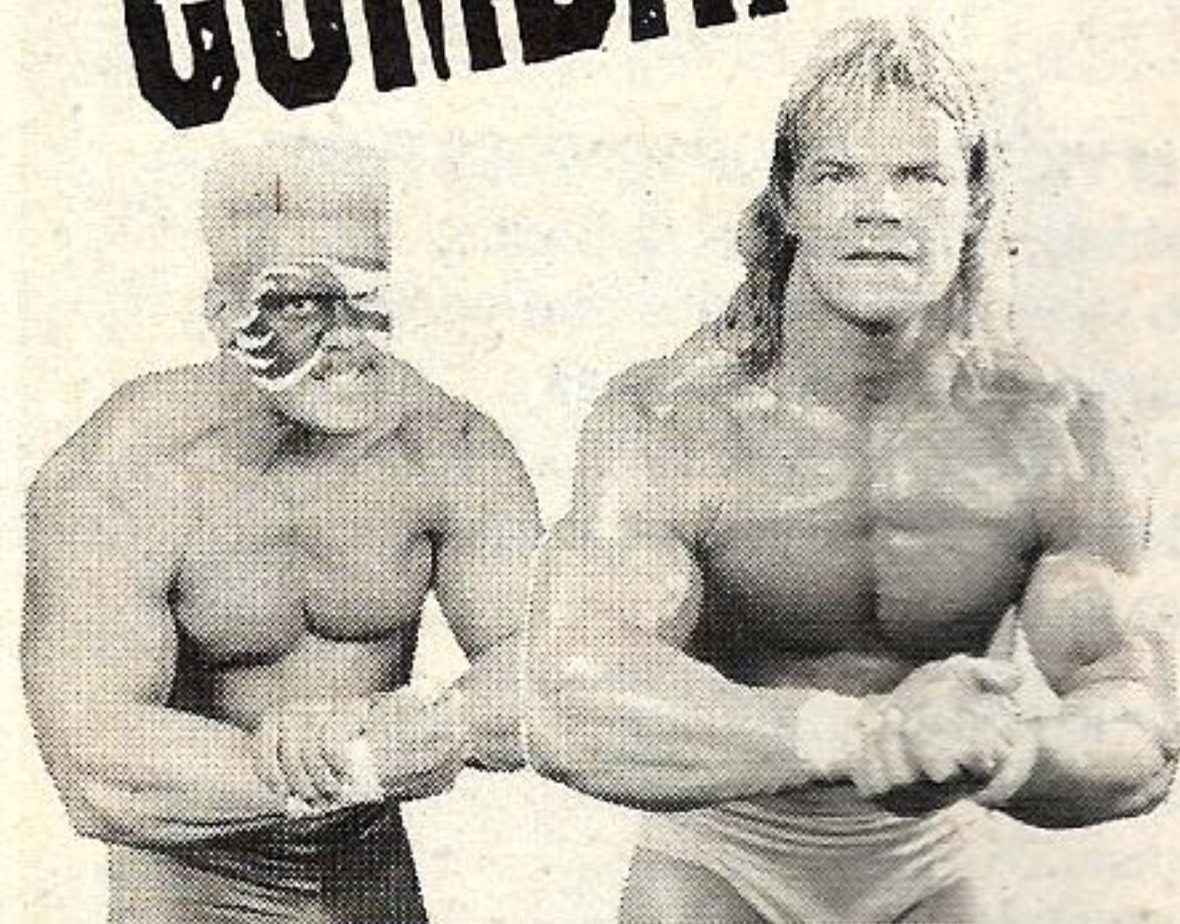
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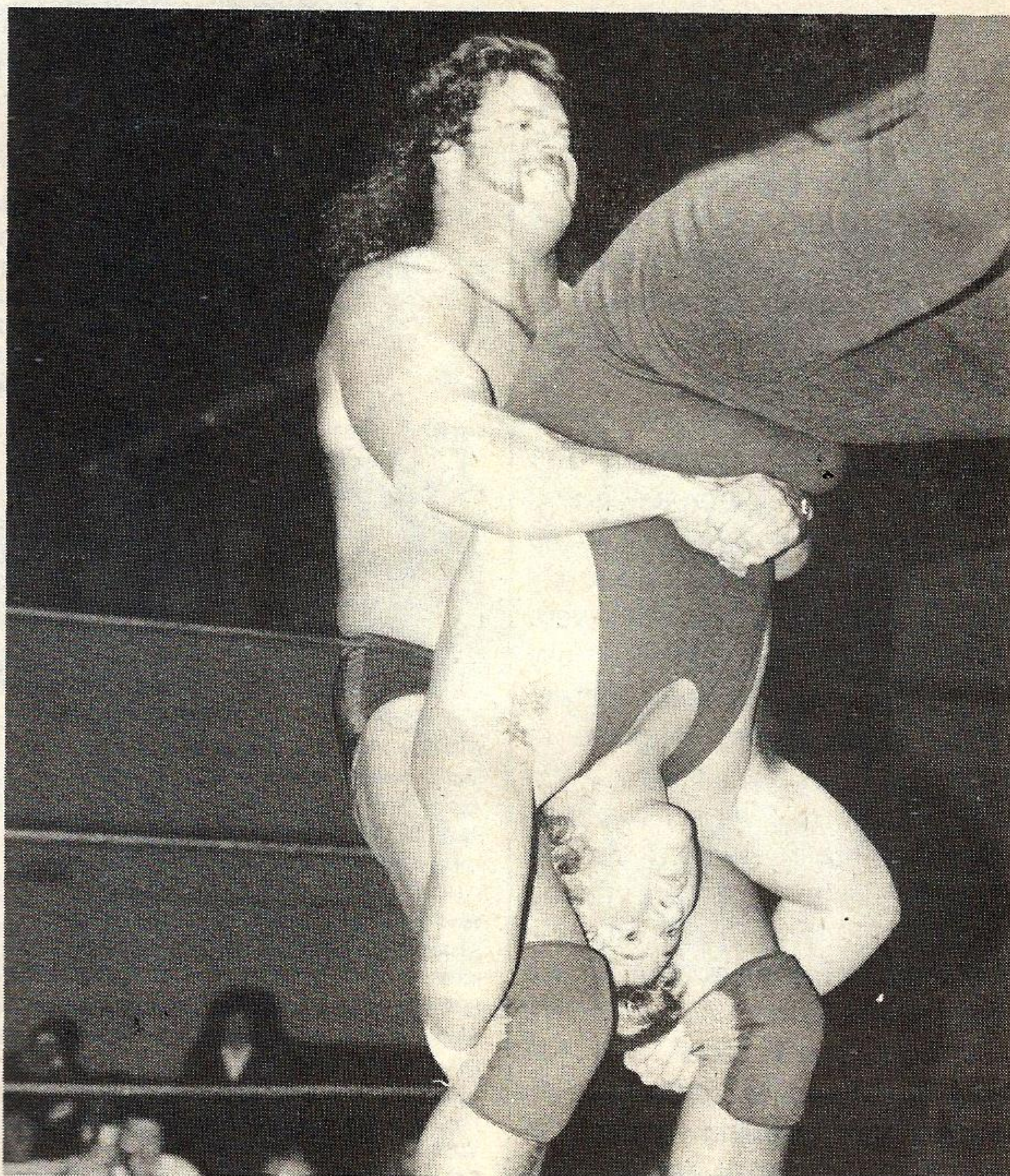
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ON ASSIGNMENT

(Continued from page 16)



Haynes' newfound brutality extends to Rip Oliver's son, Larry. Rip says he thinks Haynes has turned rulebreaker because of some inner turmoil unrelated to the sport.

dent where Billy thought my son had hit him with a garbage can, when in fact it was The Grappler who had hit him.

"But I think it has to be a lot more than that," Rip continued. "I think there's something deep down that's bothering Billy, and he just can't find it in him to express what it is. Hell, I've known him for years, and this just isn't him, the way he's acting today. If ever a man wasn't acting like himself, this is it."

"Aw, Rip's puking out a bunch of bleeding-heart crap," Haynes responded. "Why doesn't he just stop worrying about me and start worrying about what I'm gonna do to him and that snot-nosed little

punk son of his? You know, that's what's wrong with too many people in this sport. They're all worried about the next guy; meanwhile, they forget about number one and wind up with their butts smeared all over the canvas."

But Haynes' attitude extends beyond his peers to the fans, people he once revered. Indeed, when he left the Pacific Northwest in 1983 to travel to Florida and meet his idol, Dusty Rhodes, he took extensive pains to explain the move to Pacific Northwest fans.

Today, Haynes seems to be going out of his way to grind his heel into the fans' faces.

"Let me tell you something, Liz,

these fans absolutely disgust me," Haynes told me during a telephone interview. "And if you had an ounce of brains, you'd be disgusted, too. Nothin' but a bunch of gap-toothed straw-haired trash, digging through the garbage for beer and soda cans to cash in, and try to scrape up enough nickels to sleaze their way into the matches.

"Do you know," he continued, venom dripping from every word, "that I once saw some fat piece of white trash trying to cash in her food stamps at the [Portland] Sports Arena ticket office so she could get into the matches? What is that? Why isn't she home feeding her grubby little kids, or in the gym trying to lose a few pounds of blubber?"

I hung up on Billy without responding, disgusted at what I'd been hearing, and went to my files and leafed through some back issues to look at Billy Jack stories from the past.

I kept coming back to the June 1984 and July 1984 issues of *The Wrestler*, in which Billy wrote a two-part story entitled, "How Professional Wrestling Saved My Life." Reading those stories, written in Billy's own words, brought me back to that night in Florida and made me realize how far Billy has fallen.

Actually, I think Rip Oliver is right: Something is bothering Billy to such a degree that he simply isn't himself anymore. It is up to his true friends and fans to try and overlook his actions until he is able to work whatever is bothering him out of his system.

Meanwhile, I quote Billy Jack's own closing paragraph from the two-part story:

"As long as I'm in professional wrestling, I'll always remain Billy Jack—'The People's Choice.'"

Sadly, if the people had their choice today, I think Billy would be run out of the sport forever. ☐

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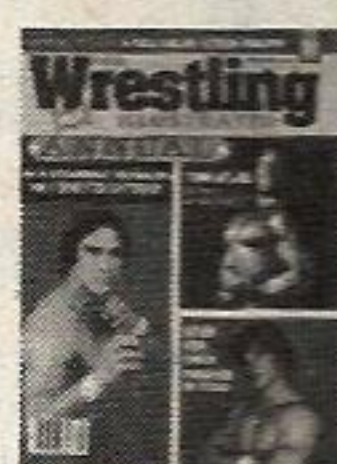
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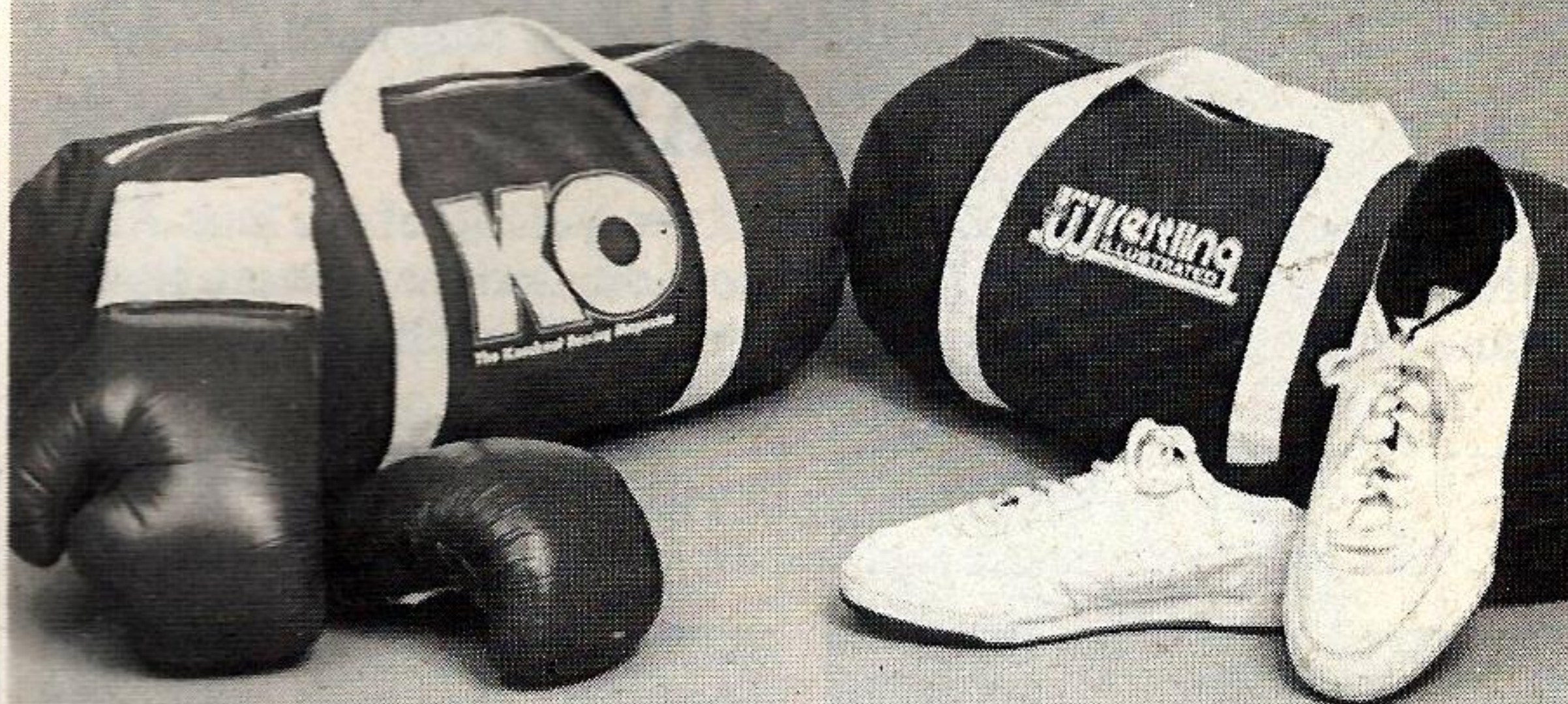
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THE STEINERS

(Continued from page 29)

ter of time before they either regain the tag belts or go out on their own and do some serious damage," said Ricky Morton of The Rock 'n' Roll Express. "Me and Bobby [Gibson] have a lot of respect for those guys. They can really go either way."

Still, there are unanswered questions about Rotundo. Why would he go to such lengths to break up the Steiners? And what's in it for him? "Money, fame, a little bit of pleasure," another source said. "Remember, Rotundo's evil, and evil people get great pleasure out of doing bad things to others. And Rotundo's still angry about the letter thing. Nobody likes to be told what to do."

That incident was one of the most embarrassing in Rotundo's career. He has virtually admitted that he only became a fan favorite to appease the many SU fans and alumni who protested his ring actions.

"I gave that school a lot of fame," Rotundo said several months ago. "They repay me by trying to tell me what to do with my life. Well, I'm out of SU and I don't have to listen to them, but I also value my letter. I'm not giving it up."

Rotundo must realize, however, that if it is discovered that he is spying on the Steiners and does revert to rule-breaking, he will surely lose his varsity letter. Perhaps Rotundo will always be a rulebreaker disguised as a fan favorite.

If so, the fan favorites of the NWA are in deep trouble. Rotundo is a dangerous wrestler and a dangerous man. He has high-powered connections. Has Rotundo sacrificed individual fame and accomplishment for dirty dollars?

"Again, I won't believe it until I see proof," Scott said. "I'm not even going to talk to Mike about it because it's not fair to accuse somebody. Right now, he's our friend and I think he'll always be our friend."

That could be wishful thinking on Scott's part.

Dangerous wishful thinking. ☐

THE JUICE PATROL

(Continued from page 31)

Barr, of course, had some help. He was knighted "Beetlejuice" by Roddy Piper, one of the most popular wrestlers in Pacific Northwest history, in a strange ceremony last year. And Barr is extremely active in charity work.

"My partner is a good man," Big Juice said. "That's why people love him."

Beetlejuice is not big by any standard; at 6', 230-pounds he is, in fact, every man. Warner, however is more appealing to the female set: He's a 6'4", 260-pound hunk with sex appeal to spare.

"My buddy has to beat 'em off with a stick," Beetlejuice smiled. "Of course, he'd never do that."

Most importantly, Beetlejuice and Big Juice are an outstanding tag team: Maybe girls just wanna have fun, but boys wanna have fun and win titles, too.

And they've done just that twice. The Patrol first shocked PNW followers by winning the Pacific Northwest tag team title by upsetting The Grappler and Brian Adams in a tournament final on

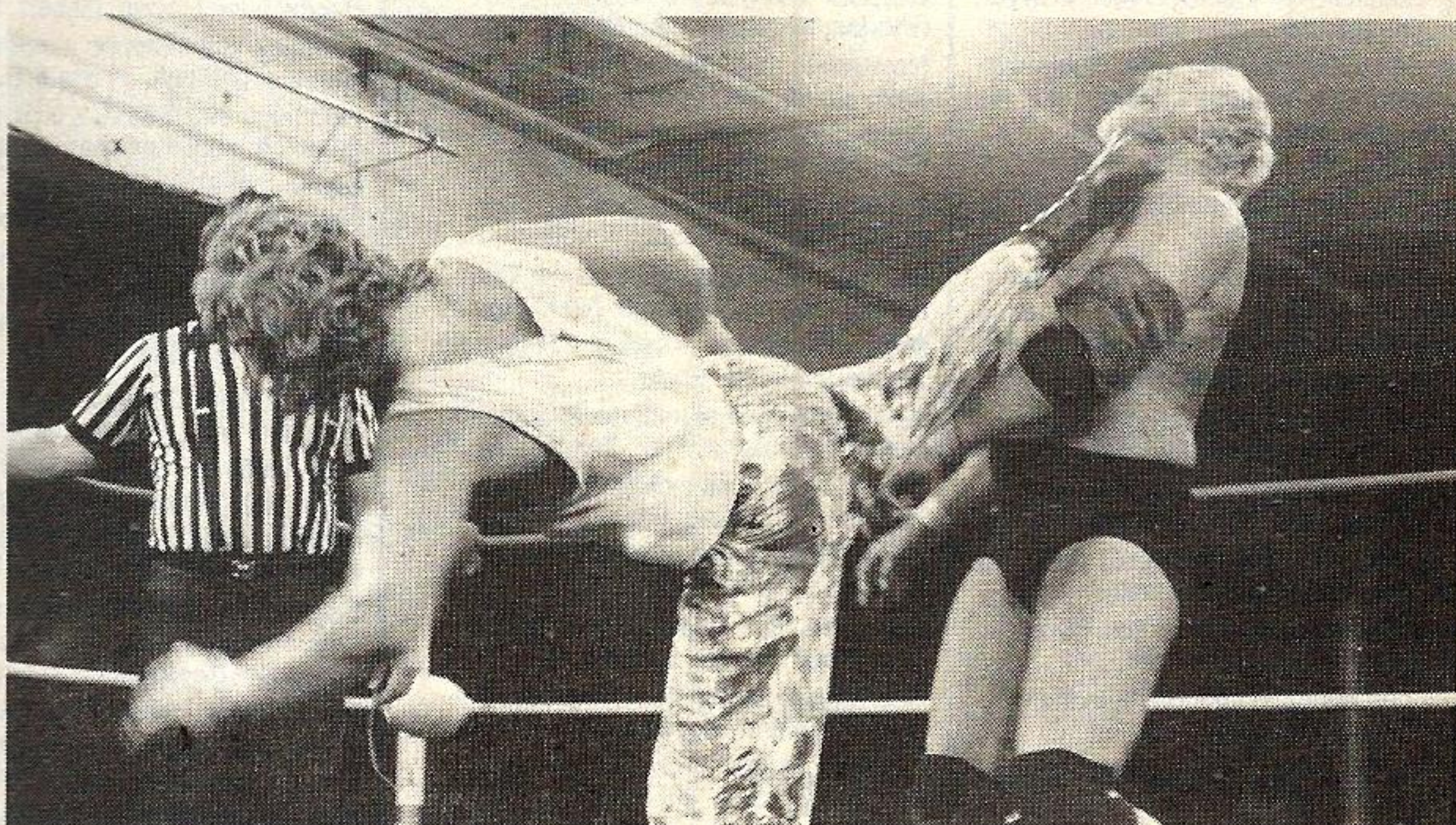
March 31. They held the belts until May 12, when Thompson and Santana pulled off a stunning double-cross, turning rulebreaker on them during what was supposed to be a best-of-three falls scientific bout and winning with illegal tactics.

"I told you those guys are dumb," said Santana after the match. "All they care about is applying their makeup and messing around with the kids. But Curtis

and I are serious wrestlers, and we'll hold this title for as long as we choose."

Santana didn't make good on that promise. On June 16 in Portland, a double-pin occurred as the Patrol wrestled U.S. Male. PNW matchmaker Barry Owen ordered that the belts be held up pending a rematch and, on June 23, the Patrol proved their worth once again.

The teams split the first two



Beetlejuice smashes Equalizer with a karate kick (above), then stops him from gaining the pin on Big Juice (below). Curtis Thompson and Ricky Santana lost the PNW tag team title to The Juice Patrol because they took them too lightly.



falls in the best-of-three falls match. For the third and deciding fall, the Juicers challenged Santana and Thompson to a special stipulation: Whoever was pinned would have to leave the federation.

The rulebreakers reluctantly agreed, and it was a decision they would soon regret. All four men were in the ring brawling when Thompson whipped Big Juice into the ropes and Beetlejuice whipped Santana into the opposite ropes. Big Juice executed a flying bodypress on Thompson as Beetlejuice went for the same move on Santana. But in a great reversal, Santana caught Beetlejuice and slammed him to the mat, setting up another double-pin situation. As referee Sandy Barr made the counts, Beetlejuice raised his shoulder at the count of two. Barr proclaimed the Juicers the new champions, while Thompson was ordered to leave the PNW forever.

So who's laughing now?

"Let's face it, the name of this game is winning," Big Juice said. "You can be the best bunch of guys in the world, but if you don't win, the fans ignore you. That's the bottom line."

"I agree," Beetlejuice said. "But there's something to be said for winning right. I think we set a good example for everyone, especially the younger people."

Can The Juice Patrol continue to operate in such a high gear? Or will they eventually run out of gas? Are they The Rock 'n' Roll Express of the PNW? Or are they a streaking comet on the verge of burning out?

These questions cannot be answered at this time. But Santana and Thompson have already learned what happens when a team doesn't take The Juice Patrol seriously.

Day-O! It's lights out! The new kids on the PNW block have made their mark. ☐

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| ☐ 1976 Yearbook #15 | ☐ 1977 Yearbook Summer | ☐ 1978 Yearbook Winter | |
| | ☐ 1977 Yearbook Fall | ☐ 1979 Yearbook Spring | |
| | | ☐ 1979 Yearbook September | |

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| ☐ 1974 Annual #8 | ☐ 1976 Annual #16 | ☐ 1978 Annual Summer | ☐ 1980 Annual January |
| ☐ 1974 Annual #9 | ☐ 1977 Annual #18 | ☐ 1978 Annual Fall | ☐ 1980 Annual Summer |
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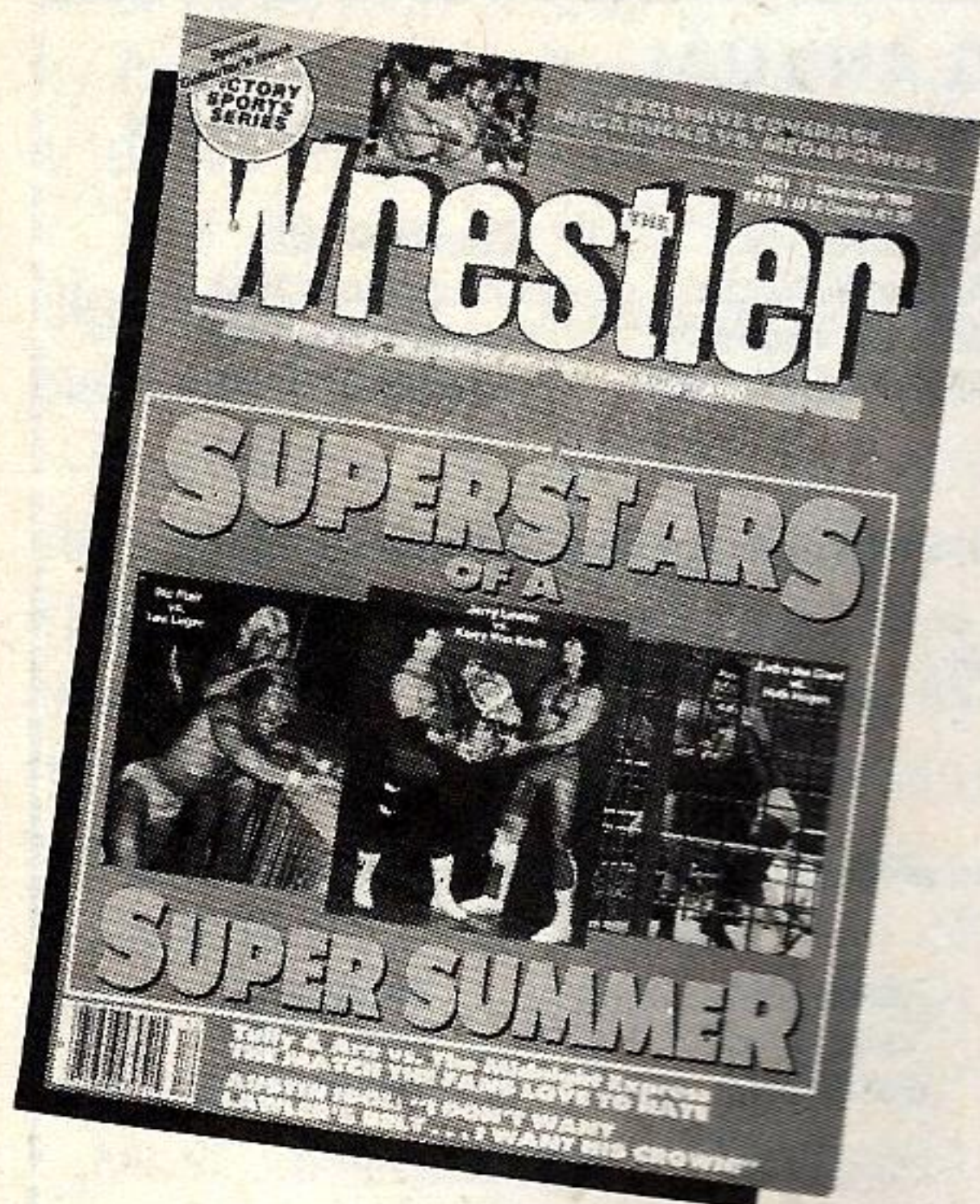
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EL GIGANTE

(Continued from page 33)

Gigante a giant on the verge of stardom, or a big man whose weaknesses will eventually be revealed by smaller, yet far superior, men?

So far, Gigante hasn't supplied any answers. He has beaten The Cuban Assassin several times, usually with a crushing bearhug, but he has yet to go after more serious competition.

"He's in training," NWA Vice President Jim Herd said. "We realized that he has limitations as a wrestler, but we also felt that, when one considers his size and natural athletic ability, he could go very far in this sport. At the very least, we felt the fans would be amazed by him."

Of course, wrestling fans are no longer in awe of size. Andre the Giant, for example, is 7'5", 497 pounds. An extra two inches isn't exactly awesome.

And what about Herd's claim that a man with no prior experience can be developed into a competitive wrestler?

"I disagree," said former NWA World champion Harley Race. "You see a lot of football players becoming wrestlers, but in almost every case they had amateur wrestling ex-

perience. Maybe Jorge can be turned into a capable wrestler, but it's going to take several years. Is the NWA ready to make that kind of investment? Personally, I would've farmed him out to one of the smaller federations and let him get some experience. Throwing him in with the wolves right away wasn't a very good idea."

NWA World champ Ric Flair agrees.

"He's not very agile and he doesn't seem to know the sport," Flair said. "but that doesn't mean he can't be dangerous. When a person has so much size, it's almost a given that he can do some kind of damage. Of course, somebody like myself would never give him the opportunity. He still has a lot to learn."

El Gigante, to his credit, isn't afraid to learn on the job. He is eager to be taught the ins and outs of the ring sport. And let's not forget: Andre the Giant never developed into a good wrestler, he merely learned how to use his size to his best advantage.

"That's one of the keys," said Sid Vicious, who, at 6'8", 318 pounds, is dwarfed by Gigante. "I've learned

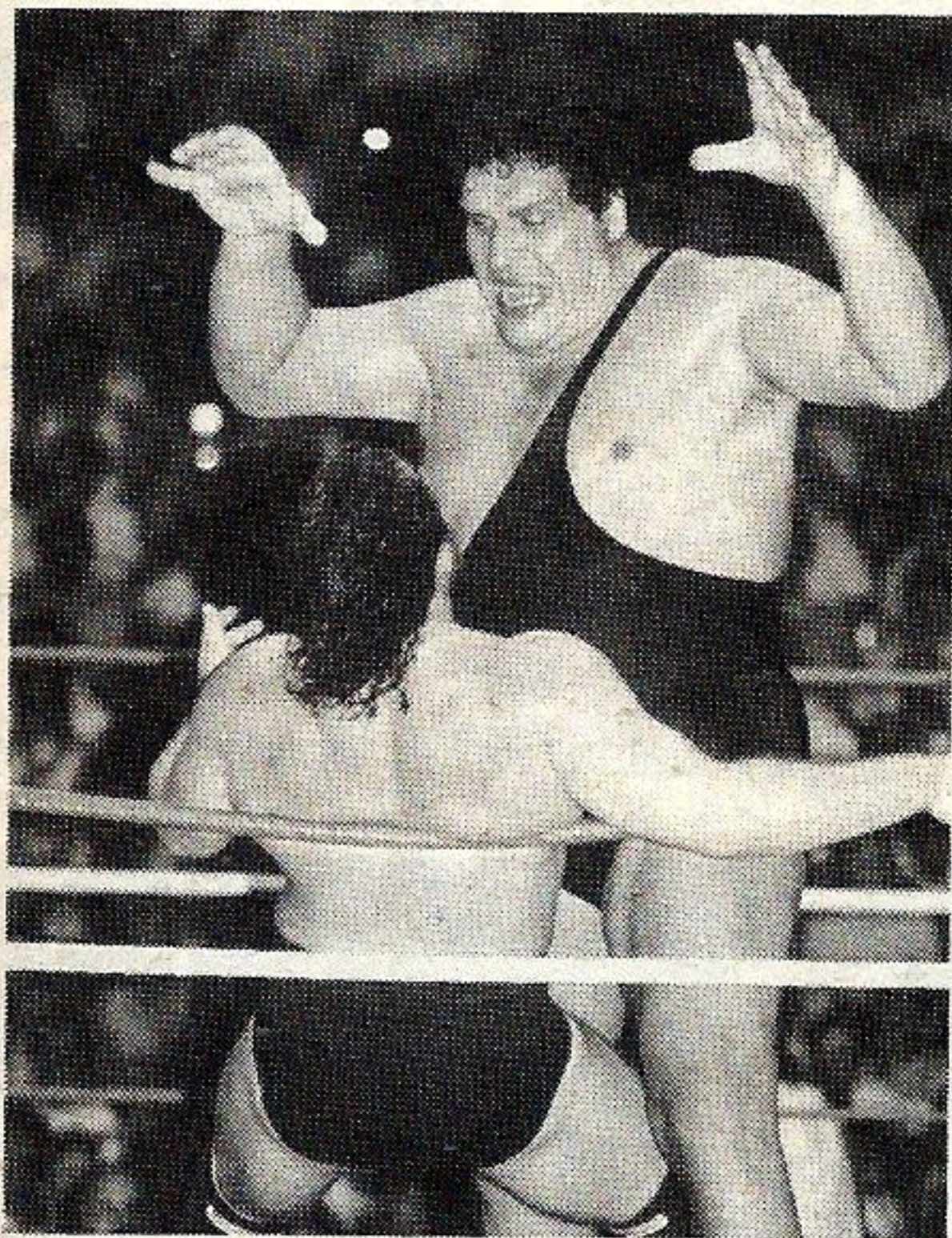


El Gigante made his initial NWA appearance at "Capital Combat '90," where he put a scare into The Four Horsemen.

that when I'm dead tired, or on days that I just don't have it, I can use my size pretty well. Gigante is about a foot taller than me, so I'm sure he's dangerous."

Comparisons are difficult because there has never been a wrestler as big as El Gigante.

Can he possibly learn enough to become as accomplished as Hulk Hogan (6'8"), Kamala (6'7"), Blackjack Mulligan (6'7"), John Studd (6'10"), Andre, or Vicious?



Andre the Giant (against Hacksaw Duggan) is huge, but Gigante is even taller. Gigante must prove himself in the ring, as Andre has done so often.

Herd insists that the NWA's investment will pay off in the long run.

"All those names you mentioned," Herd says, "they all had to start somewhere. The only difference is that with El Gigante, his career is getting off to a start in public, while the others all became accomplished wrestlers before gaining their greatest fame. But don't worry, El Gigante has the raw talent. Before you know it, he'll have the seasoned skills, too."

And Gigante seems to have the desire and work ethic necessary to make it in this sport.

"I want to be good," Gigante said. "I do not want to embarrass myself. I am an athlete. I feel as if I can do anything."

So the jury is still out. Phenomenon or fraud? El Gigante has a lot of proving to do. ☐

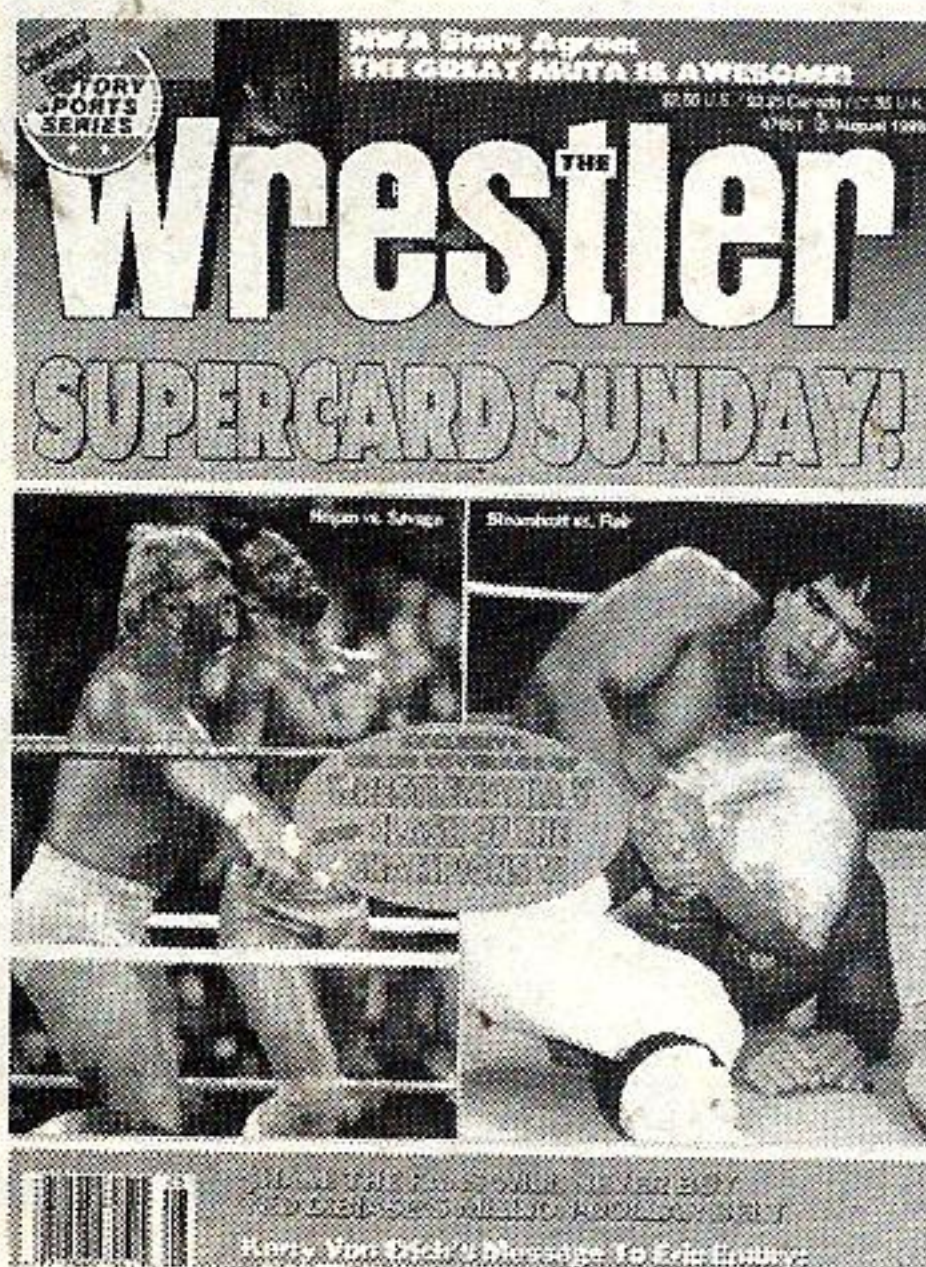
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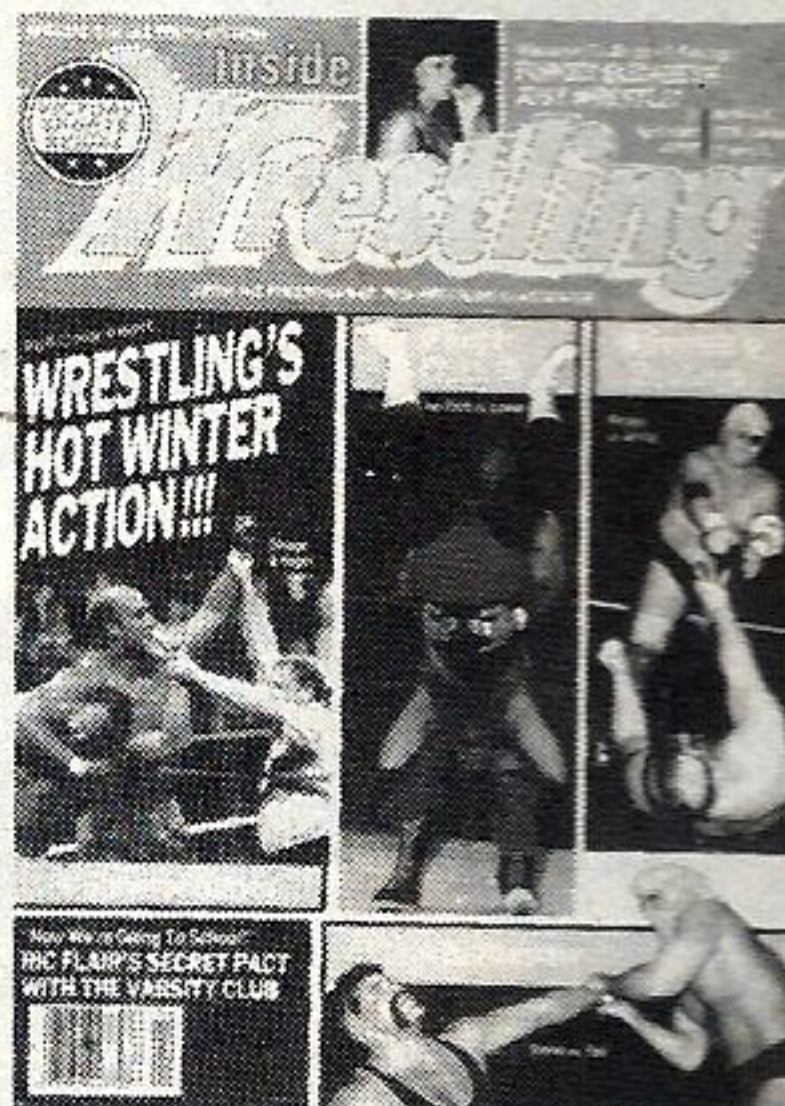
◀ SPECIAL ISSUE #1

The spectacular August 1989 edition of *The Wrestler* provided very special FULL-COLOR coverage of one of the most historic days in wrestling history: SuperCard Sunday. On that day, WrestleMania V and Clash of the Champions VI took place, and this once-in-a-lifetime magazine provides all the action and analysis of a once-in-a-lifetime day!



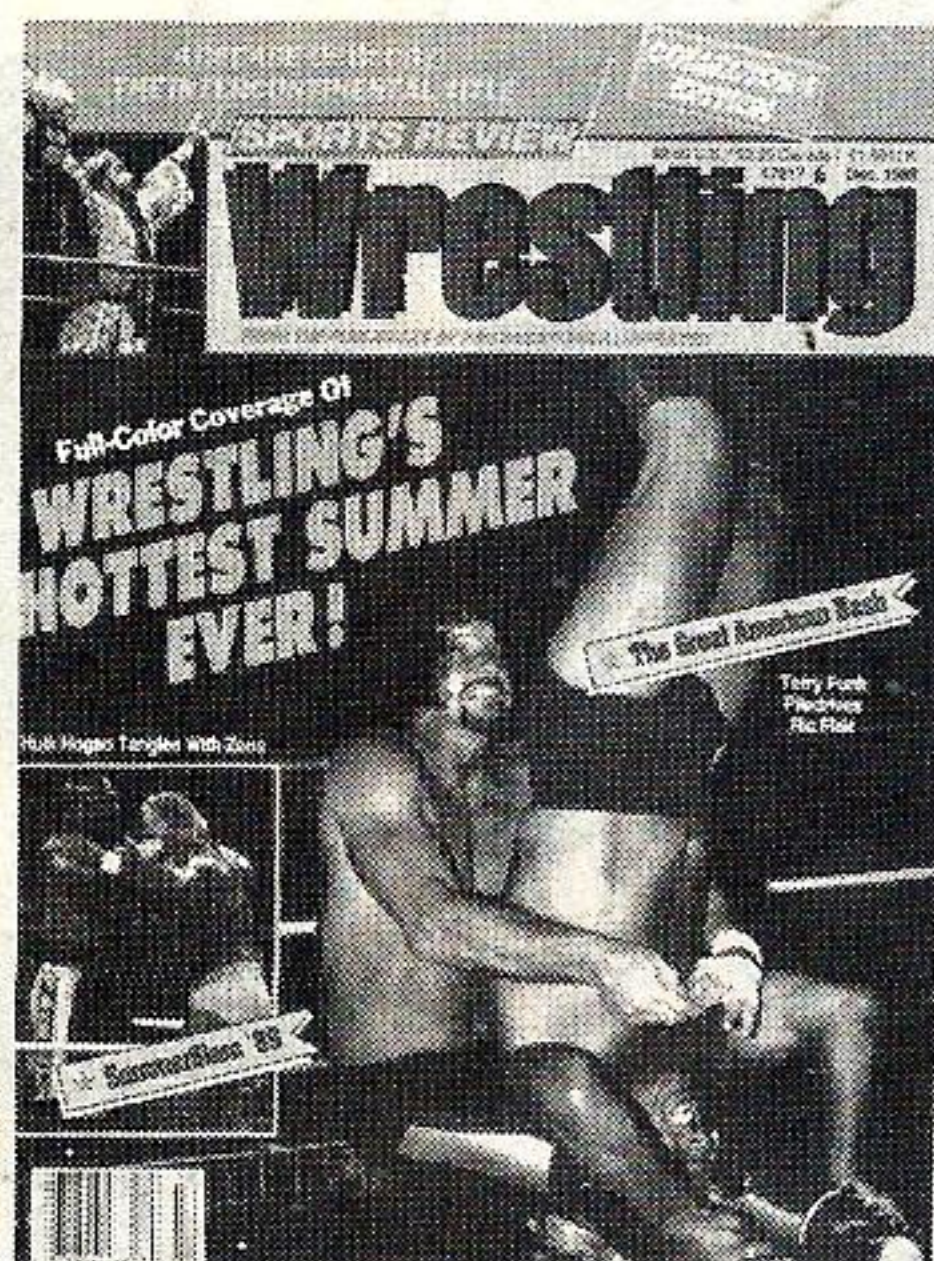
◀ SPECIAL ISSUE #2

A dynamic special section in the April 1989 issue of *Inside Wrestling* offered four pages of FULL-COLOR coverage of: The Survivor Series, SuperClash III, Battlestarr 88, and Clash of the Champions—Season's Beatings. Plus, an in-depth analysis places all these cards in historical perspective.



◀ SPECIAL ISSUE #3

The December 1989 issue of *Sports Review Wrestling* called it "Wrestling's Hottest Summer Ever!"—and indeed it was! In that issue, readers saw four pages of glorious FULL-COLOR coverage of the NWA's Great American Bash and the WWF's SummerSlam '89. A very special editorial section offered exclusive in-depth analysis of both events.



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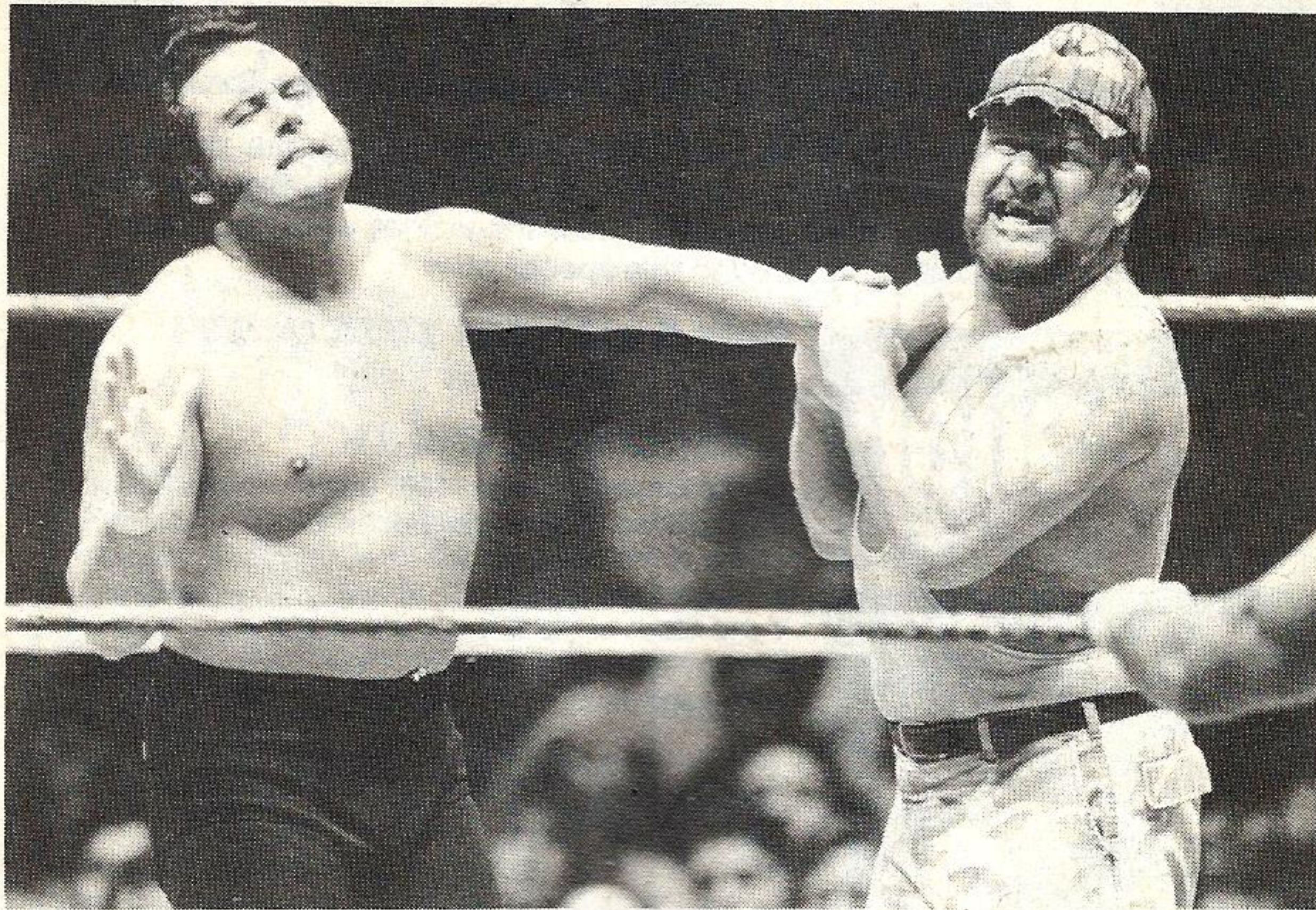
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BUSHWHACKERS

(Continued from page 35)

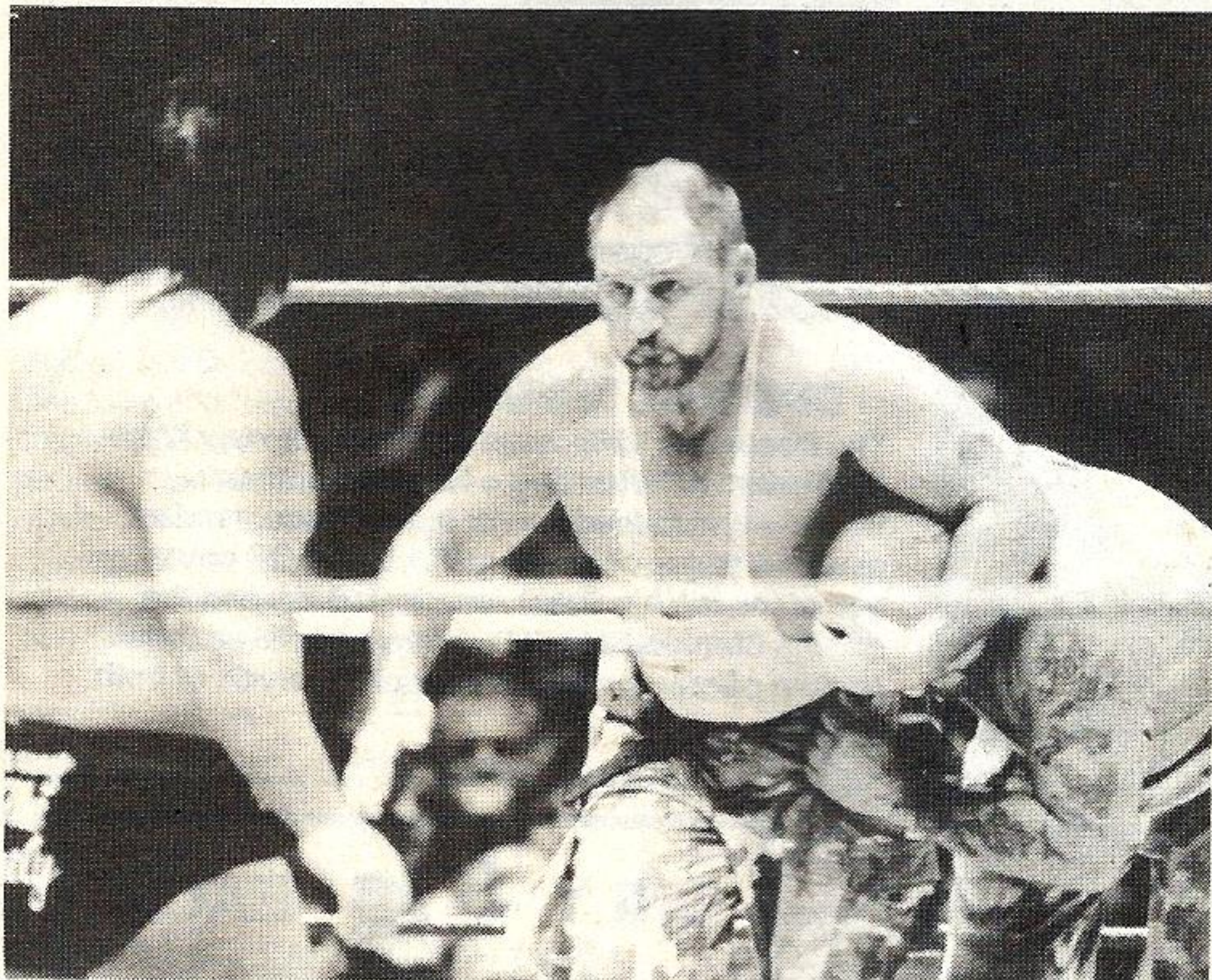


Luke Williams may have a few screws loose (and a few teeth missing), but Honky Tonk knows what a dangerous competitor he can be (above).

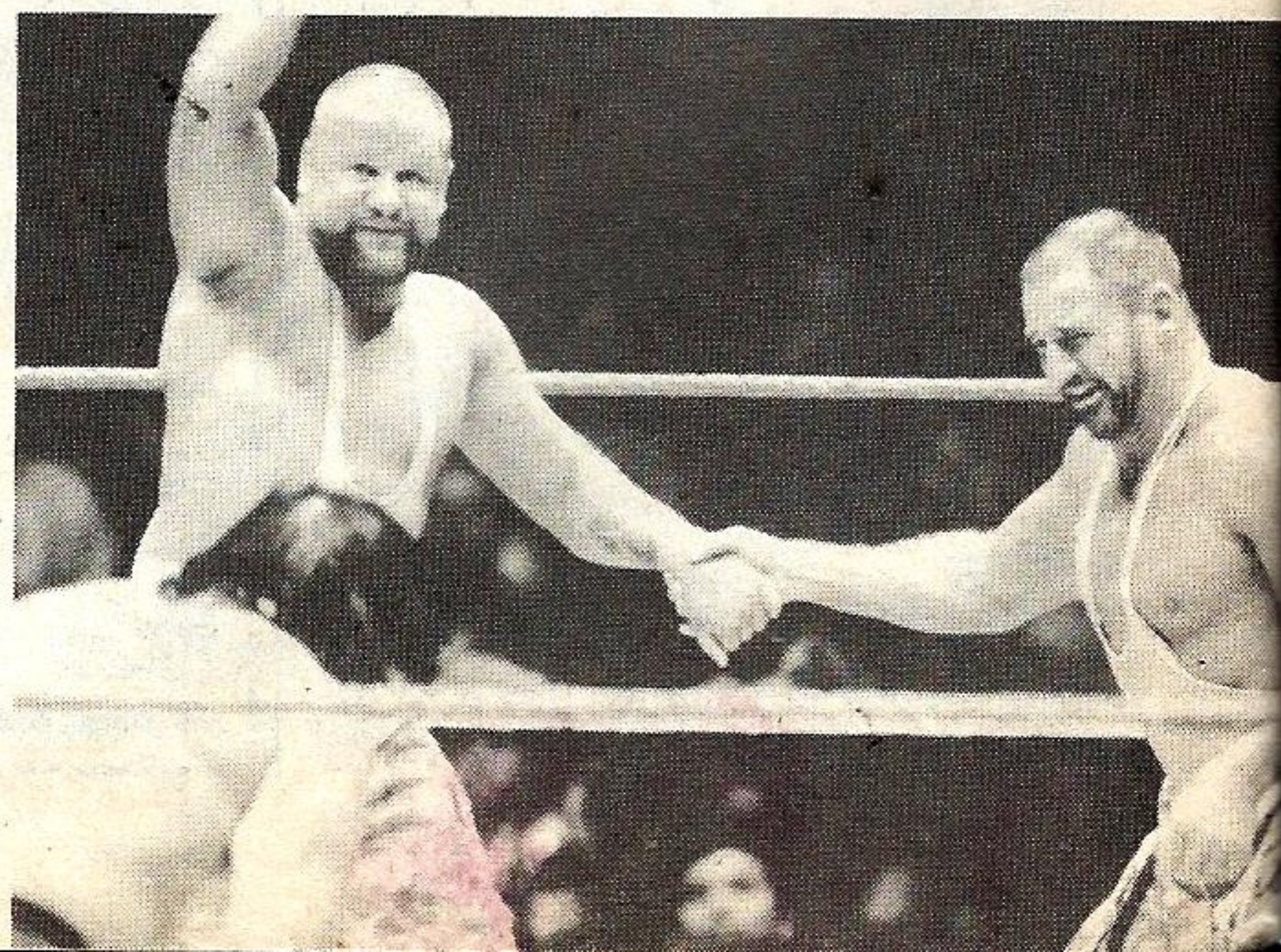
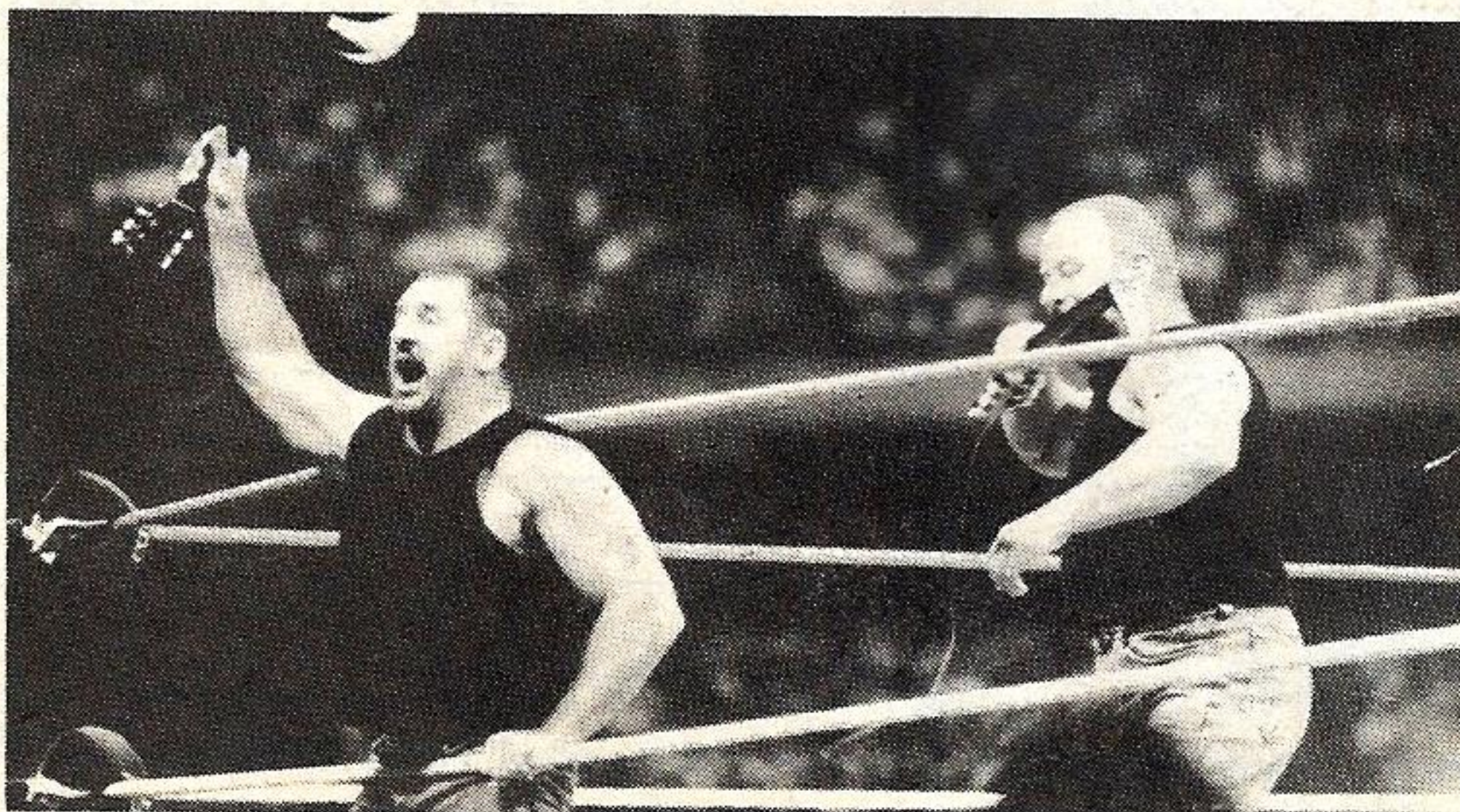
"You can say that again," recalls Tommy Rogers who, as a member of The Fantastics, feuded violently with Williams and Miller in 1986. It was a wild and bloody war in the now-defunct UWF, punctuated by barbed wire matches that shocked even the most hardcore fans.

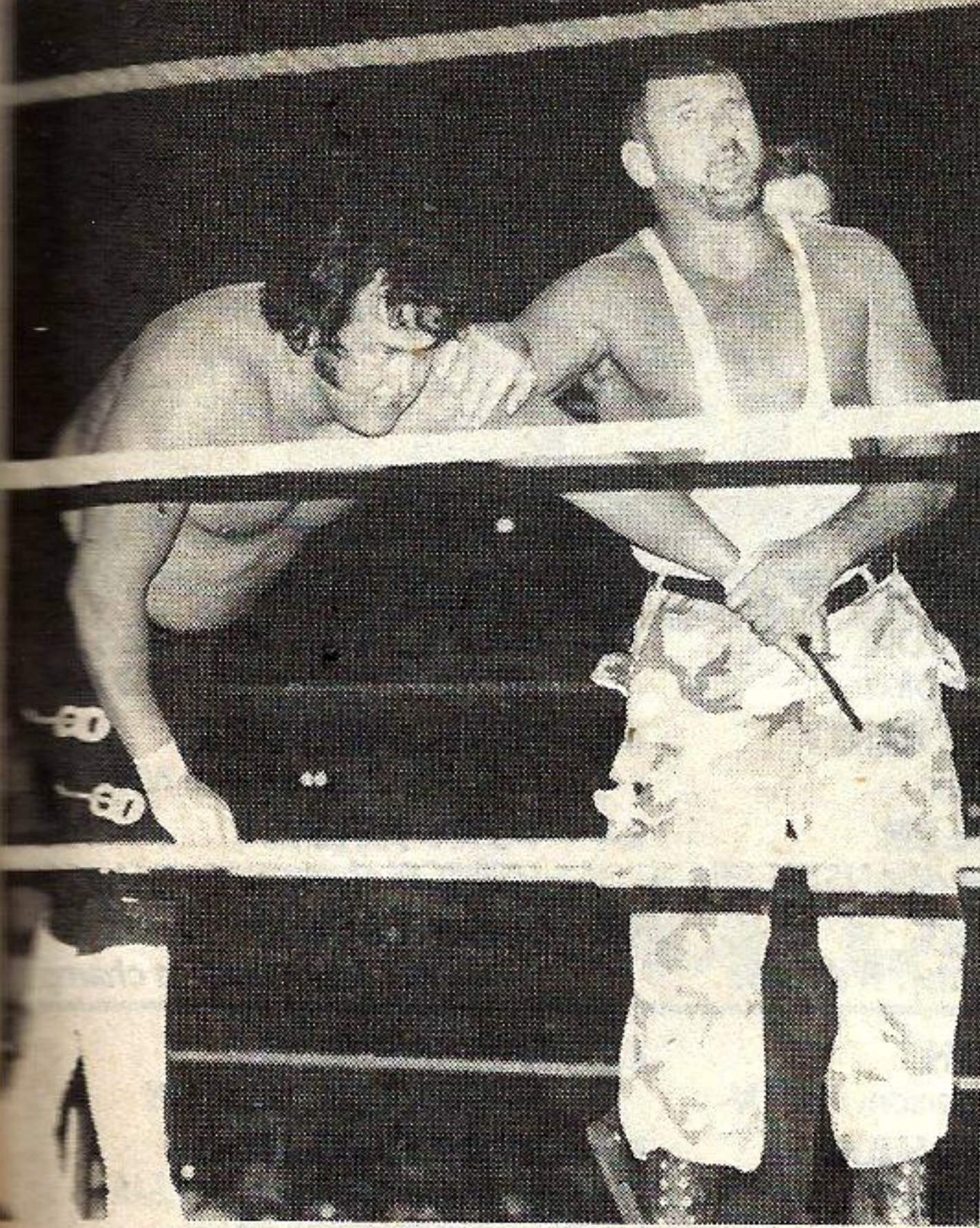
"Williams and Miller were two strange dudes," Rogers said. "Once, about a year after the feud was pretty much over, Bobby [Fulton] and I ran into them in a restaurant. I thought all hell was gonna break loose right then and there. But you know what happened? They came right up to us, slapped us on our backs, bought us beers, and told all their cronies what great guys we were.

"They hated us as opponents, but



Williams isn't above using Miller as a battering ram (above left). The Bushies like attacking Honky and Valentine before the bell (above right), and *really* like smashing their guitars (below left). One native New Zealander says the Bushies hate Valentine (below right) because they think he's wasting his talent.





Honky Tonk is a phony who can't sing or wrestle; that's why Williams and Miller don't like him one little bit.

respected us as competitors. Honor is very important to Williams and Miller. They're real into weeding out the bozos of wrestling."

And if you're searching for bozos, you needn't look any further than Jimmy Hart, the squeaky geek manager of Rhythm 'n' Blues.

"A perfect example of everything The Bushwhackers think is wrong with professional wrestling," Ernst says. "A parasite feeding off the accomplishments of others. A disordered, insecure little man willing to do anything so the world will notice him."

Of course, nationalistic pride may prevent Ernst from seeing The Bushwhackers as the pair of crazed lunatics they really are. History paints a grim portrait of two bloodthirsty aborigines from the plains of Down Under. The only difference now is that their brutal tactics are being cheered.

"They're savage beasts from a world without hot and cold running water," Rogers once said at the height of the UWF feud.

True enough. Yet it continues to be proven in cities around the country that music—especially Rhythm 'n' Blues—cannot soothe this pair of savage beasts.

Which is bad news for Greg Valentine and The Honky Tonk Man. ☐

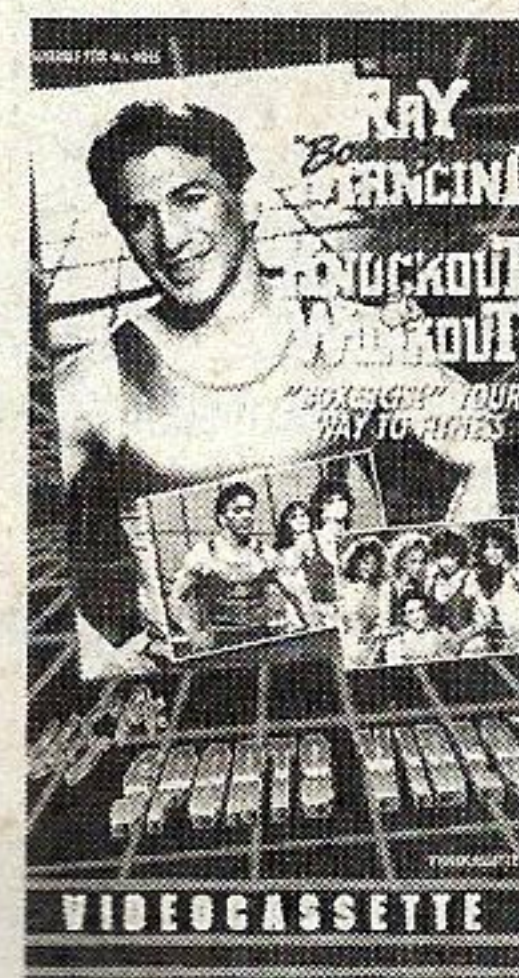
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INSIDE WRESTLING'S OFFICIAL RATINGS

TOP 15

- 1—**ULTIMATE WARRIOR**
(1) WWF World champion
- 2—**RIC FLAIR**
(2) NWA World champion
- 3—**LEX LUGER**
(3) U.S. champion

- 4—**CURT HENNIG**
(5) WWF I-C champion
- 5—**RICK RUDE**
(4) No. 2 contender: WWF title
- 6—**KERRY VON ERICH**
(12) USWA Texas champion
- 7—**LARRY ZBYSZKO**
(7) AWA World champion

- 8—**ARN ANDERSON**
(-) NWA TV champion
- 9—**SCOTTY THE BODY**
(-) PNW champion
- 10—**JERRY LAWLER**
(6) No. 2 contender: USWA title
- 11—**EARTHQUAKE**
(-) No. 4 contender: WWF title

- 12—**BILLY JACK HAYNES**
(9) No. 2 contender: PNW title
- 13—**JUNKYARD DOG**
(15) No. 2 contender: NWA title
- 14—**TONY ATLAS**
(13) ICW champion
- 15—**JOHN TATUM**
(-) USWA Southwestern champ

NWA

- 1—**RIC FLAIR**
(1) 243, Minneapolis, MN
- 2—**LEX LUGER**
(2) 268, Chicago, IL
- 3—**STING**
(-) 260, Venice Beach, CA

- 4—**MARK CALLOUS**
(5) 320, Dallas, TX
- 5—**ARN ANDERSON**
(12) 249, Minneapolis, MN
- 6—**JUNKYARD DOG**
(3) 305, Charlotte, NC
- 7—**PAUL ORNDORFF**
(14) 253, Brandon, FL

- 8—**TOMMY RICH**
(13) 248, Hendersonville, TN
- 9—**BARRY WINDHAM**
(10) 263, Sweetwater, TX
- 10—**STAN HANSEN**
(11) 322, Borger, TX
- 11—**BUDDY LANDELL**
(-) 380, Saginaw, MI

- 12—**DOUG FURNAS**
(8) 265, Commerce, OK
- 13—**MIKE ROTUNDO**
(6) 245, Syracuse, NY
- 14—**BAM BAM BIGELOW**
(7) 368, Mt. Laurel, NJ
- 15—**BRIAN PILLMAN**
(9) 226, Cincinnati, OH

WWF

- 1—**ULTIMATE WARRIOR**
(1) 280, Queens, NY
- 2—**CURT HENNIG**
(2) 235, Minneapolis, MN
- 3—**RICK RUDE**
(3) 246, Robbinsdale, MN

- 4—**EARTHQUAKE**
(4) 462, Montreal, Quebec
- 5—**BRUTUS BEEFCAKE**
(5) 273, San Francisco, CA
- 6—**TUGBOAT**
(-) 407, Pittsburgh, PA
- 7—**BIG BOSSMAN**
(6) 348, Cobb County, GA

- 8—**DUSTY RHODES**
(7) 302, Austin, TX
- 9—**RANDY SAVAGE**
(9) 245, Sarasota, FL
- 10—**JAKE ROBERTS**
(8) 246, Stone Mountain, GA
- 11—**RICK MARTEL**
(12) 236, Quebec, City, Quebec

- 12—**DINO BRAVO**
(14) 256, Montreal, Quebec
- 13—**TED DiBIASE**
(11) 247, Omaha, NB
- 14—**BAD NEWS BROWN**
(10) 280, New York, NY
- 15—**HACKSAW DUGGAN**
(13) 280, Glens Falls, NY

AWA

- 1—**LARRY ZBYSZKO**
(1) 248, Pittsburgh, PA
- 2—**SGT. SLAUGHTER**
(5) 310, Parris Island, SC
- 3—**DON MURACO**
(-) 274, Sunset Beach, HI

- 4—**BARON VON RASCHKE**
(-) 271, Berlin, Germany
- 5—**THE TROOPER**
(3) 243, Charlotte, NC
- 6—**NIKITA KOLOFF**
(2) 275, Moscow, Russia
- 7—**JOHN NORD**
(7) 316, Bozeman, MT

- 8—**D.J. PETERSON**
(4) 245, St. Joseph, MO
- 9—**COL. DeBEERS**
(6) 248, Cape Town, S. Africa
- 10—**BUCK ZUMHOFE**
(-) 222, Minneapolis, MN
- 11—**JONNIE STEWART**
(-) 242, Pacific Palisades, CA

- 12—**BRAD RHEINGANS**
(9) 248, Appleton, MN
- 13—**MIKE GEORGE**
(-) 265, St. Joseph, MO
- 14—**TOMMY JAMMER**
(14) 245, San Diego, CA
- 15—**WAYNE BLOOM**
(10) 266, Minneapolis, MN

MOST POPULAR

- 1—**HULK HOGAN**
Last month: No. 2 Most Popular
- 2—**STING**
Last month: No. 4 Most Popular
- 3—**THE ULTIMATE WARRIOR**
Last month: No. 1 Most Popular

- 4—**LEX LUGER**
Last month: No. 3 Most Popular
- 5—**TUGBOAT**
Last month: No. 8 Most Popular
- 6—**DUSTY RHODES**
Last month: No. 5 Most Popular
- 7—**BIG BOSSMAN**
Last month: No. 6 Most Popular

- 8—**KERRY VON ERICH**
Last month: No. 10 Most Popular
- 9—**PAUL ORNDORFF**
Last month: unrated
- 10—**SCOTTY THE BODY**
Last month: No. 9 Most Popular
- 11—**BRUTUS BEEFCAKE**
Last month: No. 14 Most Popular

- 12—**RICK STEINER**
Last month: unrated
- 13—**JUNKYARD DOG**
Last month: No. 11 Most Popular
- 14—**JAKE ROBERTS**
Last month: No. 12 Most Popular
- 15—**NIKITA KOLOFF**
Last month: No. 15 Most Popular

MOST HATED

- 1—**EARTHQUAKE**
Last month: No. 4 Most Hated
- 2—**RIC FLAIR**
Last month: No. 1 Most Hated
- 3—**CURT HENNIG**
Last month: No. 2 Most Hated

- 4—**RICK RUDE**
Last month: No. 5 Most Hated
- 5—**BARRY WINDHAM**
Last month: No. 3 Most Hated
- 6—**LARRY ZBYSZKO**
Last month: No. 8 Most Hated
- 7—**BILLY JACK HAYNES**
Last month: No. 9 Most Hated

- 8—**ARN ANDERSON**
Last month: No. 13 Most Hated
- 9—**RICK MARTEL**
Last month: No. 7 Most Hated
- 10—**STEVE AUSTIN**
Last month: unrated
- 11—**TED DiBIASE**
Last month: No. 10 Most Hated

- 12—**BAD NEWS BROWN**
Last month: No. 14 Most Hated
- 13—**MARK CALLOUS**
Last month: No. 11 Most Hated
- 14—**RANDY SAVAGE**
Last month: No. 12 Most Hated
- 15—**TONY ATLAS**
Last month: No. 15 Most Hated

TAG TEAMS

- 1—**DOOM**
(2) NWA World tag team champions
- 2—**THE ROCK 'N' ROLL EXPRESS**
(11) No. 1 contenders: NWA tag title
- 3—**DEMOLITION (SMASH, CRUSH, AX)**
(1) WWF World tag team champions
- 4—**THE MIDNIGHT EXPRESS**
(4) U.S. tag team champions
- 5—**THE HART FOUNDATION**
(5) No. 1 contenders: WWF tag title

- 6—**RICK & SCOTT STEINER**
(3) No. 2 contenders: NWA tag title
- 7—**THE ROCKERS**
(8) No. 2 contenders: WWF tag title
- 8—**TRACEY SMOTHERS & STEVE ARMSTRONG**
(-) No. 1 contenders: U.S. tag title
- 9—**TONY ANTHONY & TOM BURTON**
(-) USWA tag team champions
- 10—**BEETLEJUICE & BIG JUICE**
(-) PNW tag team champions

- 11—**THE BUSHWHACKERS**
(12) No. 4 contenders: WWF tag title
- 12—**THE ORIENT EXPRESS**
(14) No. 3 contenders: WWF tag title
- 13—**THE LEGION OF DOOM**
(7) No. 5 contenders: WWF tag title
- 14—**THE UNDERTAKERS**
(-) ICW tag team champions
- 15—**MIKE ENOS & WAYNE BLOOM**
(6) AWA World tag team champions

These ratings are compiled by the editors with the assistance of promoters, wrestlers, and reporters around the country, and are based on won-lost records for the past month, quality of opposition, and the inherent skill of each wrestler. The number in parentheses indicates a wrestler's position in that category last issue; (-) indicates that the wrestler was not rated in that category last issue. . . . "Most Popular" and "Most Hated" ratings are based on nationwide surveys of wrestling fans and on mail that comes to our offices. . . . Championships marked with asterisks on the "Roll Call of Champions" indicate title changes that have taken place since our previous issue. . . . The information under the championship listing indicates the date that champion won the title, who the former champion was, and where the match took place.

For period ended June 29, 1990

ROLL CALL OF CHAMPIONS

ALL-JAPAN ASIAN TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: TITLE VACANT

(most recently held by Akira Taue & Shinichi Nakano)

* ALL-JAPAN INTERNATIONAL CHAMPION: STAN HANSEN

(June 8, 1990; from Terry Gordy; Tokyo, Japan)

ALL-JAPAN TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: STEVE WILLIAMS & TERRY GORDY

(March 6, 1990; from Stan Hansen & Genichiro Tenryu; Tokyo, Japan)

ALL-JAPAN JR. HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: MASANOBU FUCHI

(October 20, 1989; from Joe Malenko; Nagoya, Japan)

* ALL-JAPAN UNITED NATIONAL CHAMPION: STAN HANSEN

(June 8, 1990; from Terry Gordy; Tokyo, Japan)

ALL-JAPAN WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL CHAMPION: MITSUKO NISHIWAKI

(January 1, 1990; elimination final over Bull Nakano; Tokyo, Japan)

ALL-JAPAN WOMEN'S CHAMPION: MINAMI TOYODA

(November 18, 1989; tournament final over Mika Takahashi; Tokyo, Japan)

ALL-JAPAN WOMEN'S TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS:

AKIRA HOKUTO & SUZUKA MINAMI

(February 7, 1990; from Grizzly Iwamoto & Aja Kong; Osaka, Japan)

AWA WORLD CHAMPION: LARRY ZBYSZKO

(April 8, 1990; from Mr. Saito; St. Paul, MN)

AWA WORLD TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: THE DESTRUCTION CREW

(October 1, 1989; tournament final over Greg Gagne & Paul Diamond; Rochester, MN)

AWA WORLD WOMEN'S CHAMPION: CANDI DEVINE

(December 6, 1989; tournament match over Judy Martin; Toronto, Ontario)

GEORGIA ALL-STAR CHAMPION: NICK BUSICK

(May 17, 1990; tournament final over Mike Golden; Lawrenceville, GA)

ICW CHAMPION: TONY ATLAS

(February 11, 1989; from Joe Savoldi; Presque Isle, ME)

ICW TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: THE UNDERTAKERS

(March 31, 1990; tournament final over Phil Apollo & Eric Sbracchia; Charlton, MA)

IWA WOMEN'S CHAMPION: MADUSA MICELI

(September 14, 1989; tournament final over Beastie; Kumamoto, Japan)

IWGP CHAMPION: BIG VAN VADER

(August 10, 1989; from Riki Choshu; Tokyo, Japan)

IWGP INTERNATIONAL TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS:

THE GREAT MUTA & MASA CHONO

(April 27, 1990; from Mr. Saito & Shinya Hashimoto; Tokyo Bay, Japan)

IWGP JR. HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: THUNDER RIGER

(January 31, 1990; from Naoki Sano; Osaka, Japan)

LPWA CHAMPION: SUSAN SEXTON

(by LPWA officials' decision)

LPWA TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS:

MISTY BLUE SIMMES & HEIDI LEE MORGAN

(March 13, 1990; tournament final over Bad Girl & Black Venus; Laughlin, NV)

NWA TV CHAMPION: ARN ANDERSON

(January 2, 1990; from The Great Muta; Gainesville, GA)

NWA WORLD CHAMPION: RIC FLAIR

(May 7, 1989; from Rick Steamboat; Nashville, TN)

NWA WORLD TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: DOOM

(May 19, 1990; from Rick & Scott Steiner; Washington, DC)

* PACIFIC NORTHWEST CHAMPION: SCOTTY THE BODY

(June 2, 1990; victory over The Grappler for vacant title; Portland, OR)

* PACIFIC NORTHWEST TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: BEETLEJUICE & BIG JUICE

(June 23, 1990; victory over Curtis Thompson & Ricky Santana for held-up title; Portland, OR)

PACIFIC NORTHWEST TV CHAMPION: SCOTTY THE BODY

(March 17, 1990; from Ricky Santana; Portland, OR)

* PACIFIC WRESTLING FEDERATION CHAMPION: STAN HANSEN

(June 8, 1990; from Terry Gordy; Tokyo, Japan)

PACIFIC WRESTLING FEDERATION INT'L TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS:

STEVE WILLIAMS & TERRY GORDY

(April 9, 1990; from Genichiro Tenryu & Stan Hansen; Tokyo, Japan)

PWF (FLORIDA) CHAMPION: STEVE KEIRN

(July 9, 1989; from Kendall Windham; Orlando, FL)

PWF (FLORIDA) TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: MIKE GRAHAM & JOE GOMEZ

(May 8, 1990; from Robert Fuller & Kendall Windham; Tampa, FL)

PWF (FLORIDA) LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: LOU PEREZ

(May 29, 1990; from Jim Backlund; Tampa, FL)

U.S. CHAMPION: LEX LUGER

(May 22, 1989; from Michael Hayes; Bluefield, WV)

U.S. TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: THE MIDNIGHT EXPRESS

(May 19, 1990; from Brian Pillman & Tom Zenk; Washington, DC)

* USWA CHAMPION: THE SNOWMAN

(June 18, 1990; from Jerry Lawler; Memphis, TN)

* USWA SOUTHWESTERN CHAMPION: JOHN TATUM

(June 15, 1990; from Bill Dundee; Dallas, TX)

* USWA TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: REX KING & JOEY MAGGS

(June 23, 1990; from Tony Anthony & Tom Burton; Memphis, TN)

* USWA TEXAS CHAMPION: KERRY VON ERICH

(June 1, 1990; from Matt Borne; Dallas, TX)

WWC CARIBBEAN CHAMPION: LEO BURKE

(May 19, 1990; from Invader I; San Sebastian, Puerto Rico)

* WWC CARIBBEAN TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS:

HURRICANE CASTILLO JR. & MIGUEL PEREZ JR.

(June 6, 1990; from Chicky Starr & Leo Burke; San Juan, Puerto Rico)

WWC JR. HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: HURRICANE CASTILLO

(April 21, 1990; from Eddie Watts; Bayamon, Puerto Rico)

* WWC PUERTO RICAN CHAMPION: TITLE VACANT

(most recently held by Manny Fernandez)

WWC TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: THE SUPER MEDICS

(March 31, 1990; from The Mercenaries; San Juan, Puerto Rico)

WWC UNIVERSAL CHAMPION: CARLOS COLON

(March 31, 1990; from Abdullah the Butcher; San Juan, Puerto Rico)

WWC WOMEN'S CHAMPION: WENDI RICHTER

(July 28, 1987; from Monster Ripper; Trinidad, West Indies)

WWF INTERCONTINENTAL CHAMPION: CURT HENNIG

(April 23, 1990; tournament final over Tito Santana; Austin, TX)

WWF WORLD CHAMPION: THE ULTIMATE WARRIOR

(April 1, 1990; from Hulk Hogan; Toronto, Ontario)

WWF WORLD TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: DEMOLITION

(April 1, 1990; from Andre the Giant & Haku; Toronto, Ontario)

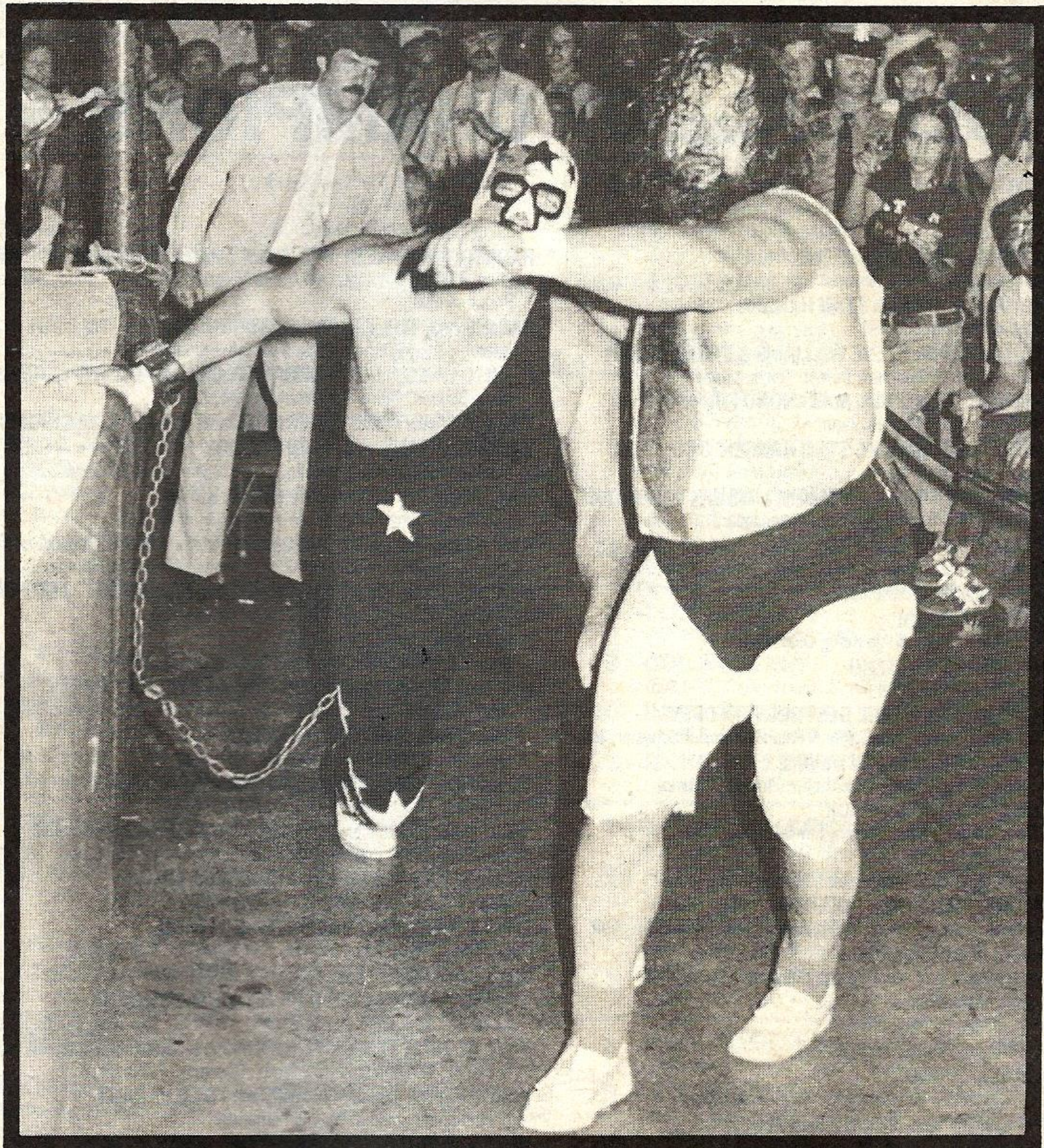
WWF WOMEN'S CHAMPION: ROCKIN' ROBIN

(October 7, 1988; from Sherri Martel; Paris, France)

Blast From The Past

This Month In Wrestling History

"BRAWLING FOR DOLLARS"



THE MIGHTY IGOR vs. MASKED SUPERSTAR

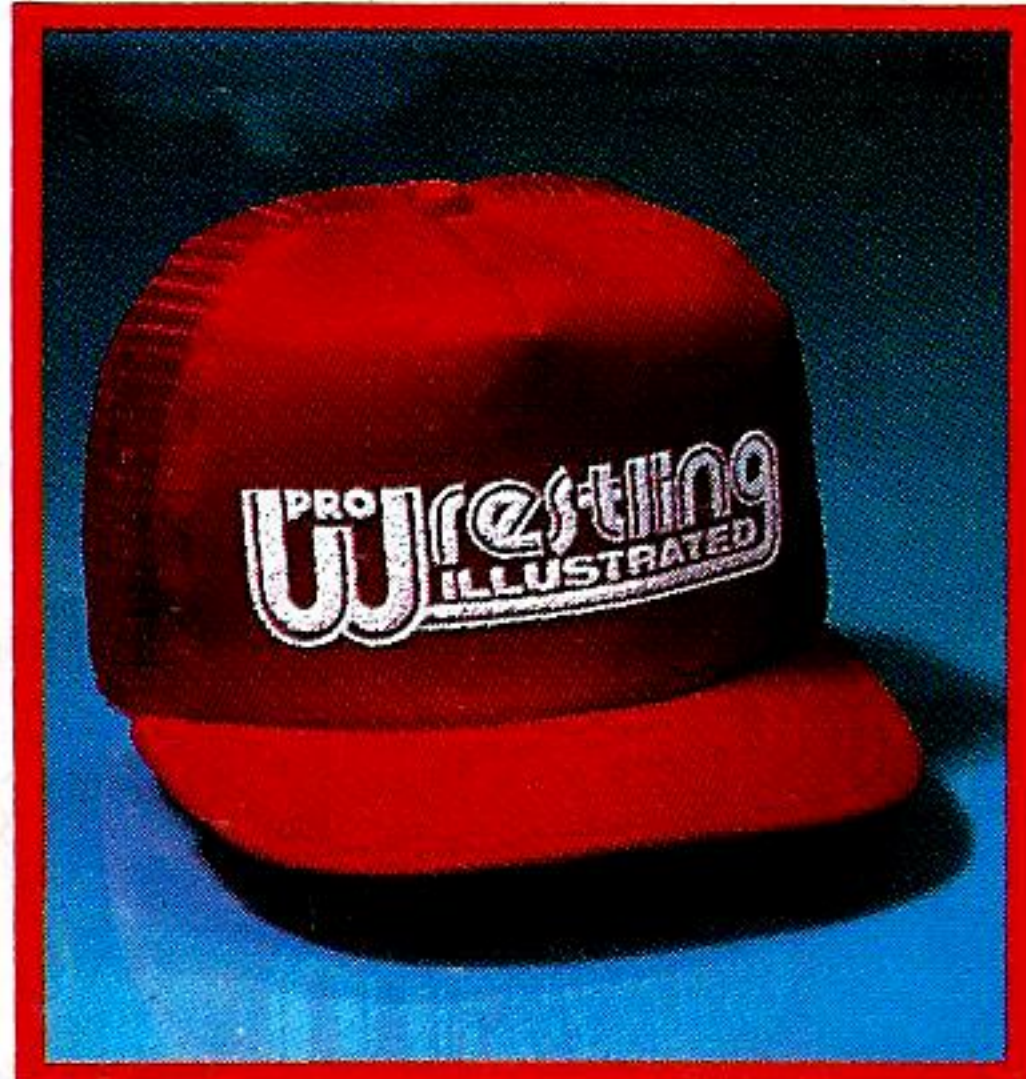
August 1977

The powerful Mighty Igor runs Masked Superstar's head toward the steel ringpost during this horribly bloody chain match in Richmond, Virginia. These men had engaged in a violent feud for months, and promoters were tiring of seeing their mats stained with blood. Worried officials offered Igor and Superstar a quick solution: The winner of the bout would receive the entire purse. Lusting for the big payoff, the two men battered each other unmercifully until Igor smashed the side of Superstar's head with his steel bracelet, making the veteran masked man an easy pinfall victim.

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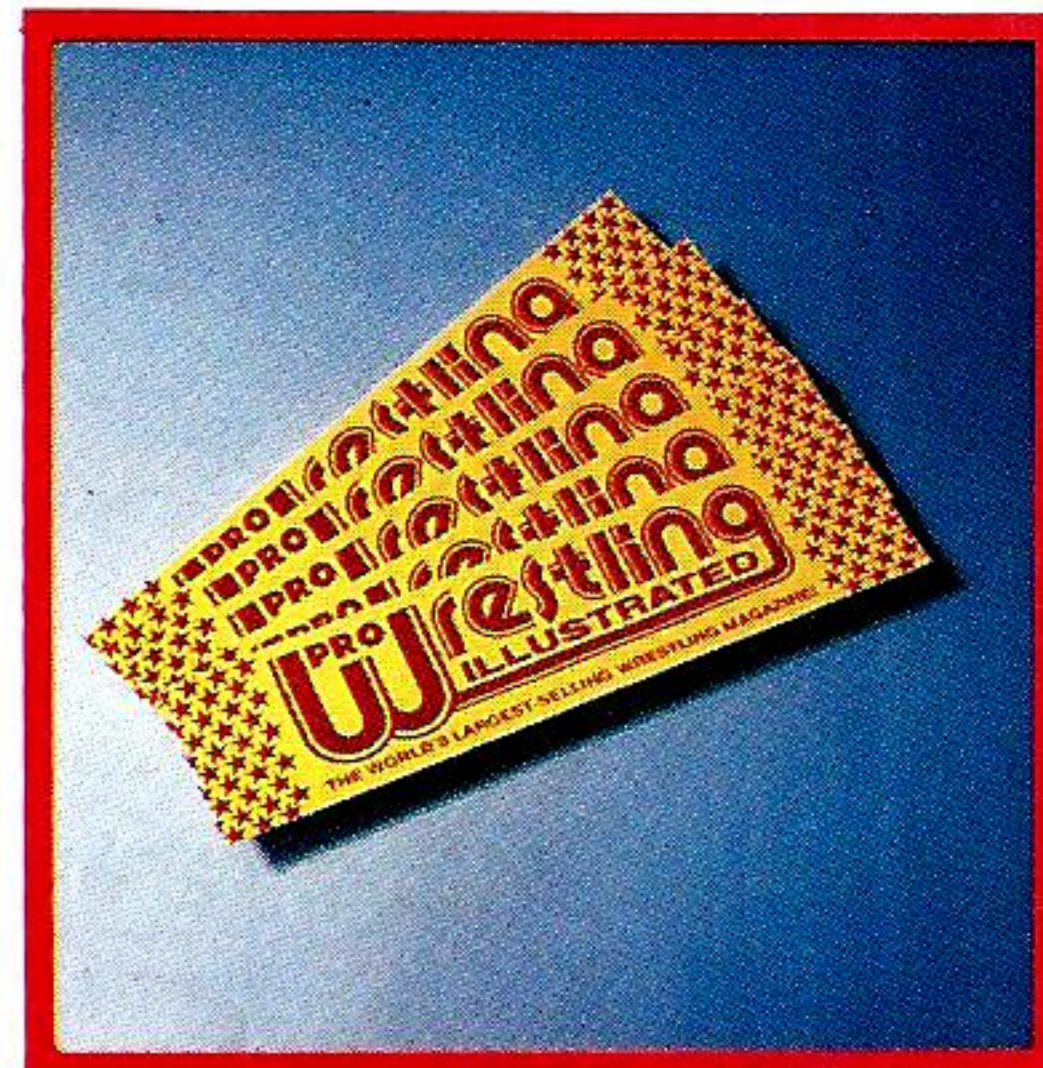
The *Pro Wrestling Illustrated* logo is reproduced in dynamic red on a bright yellow background. This giant sticker (3 3/4 inches by 15 inches) is specially made of high-quality vinyl for easy application and removal. A guaranteed eye-catcher wherever you place it! Only \$2.00.

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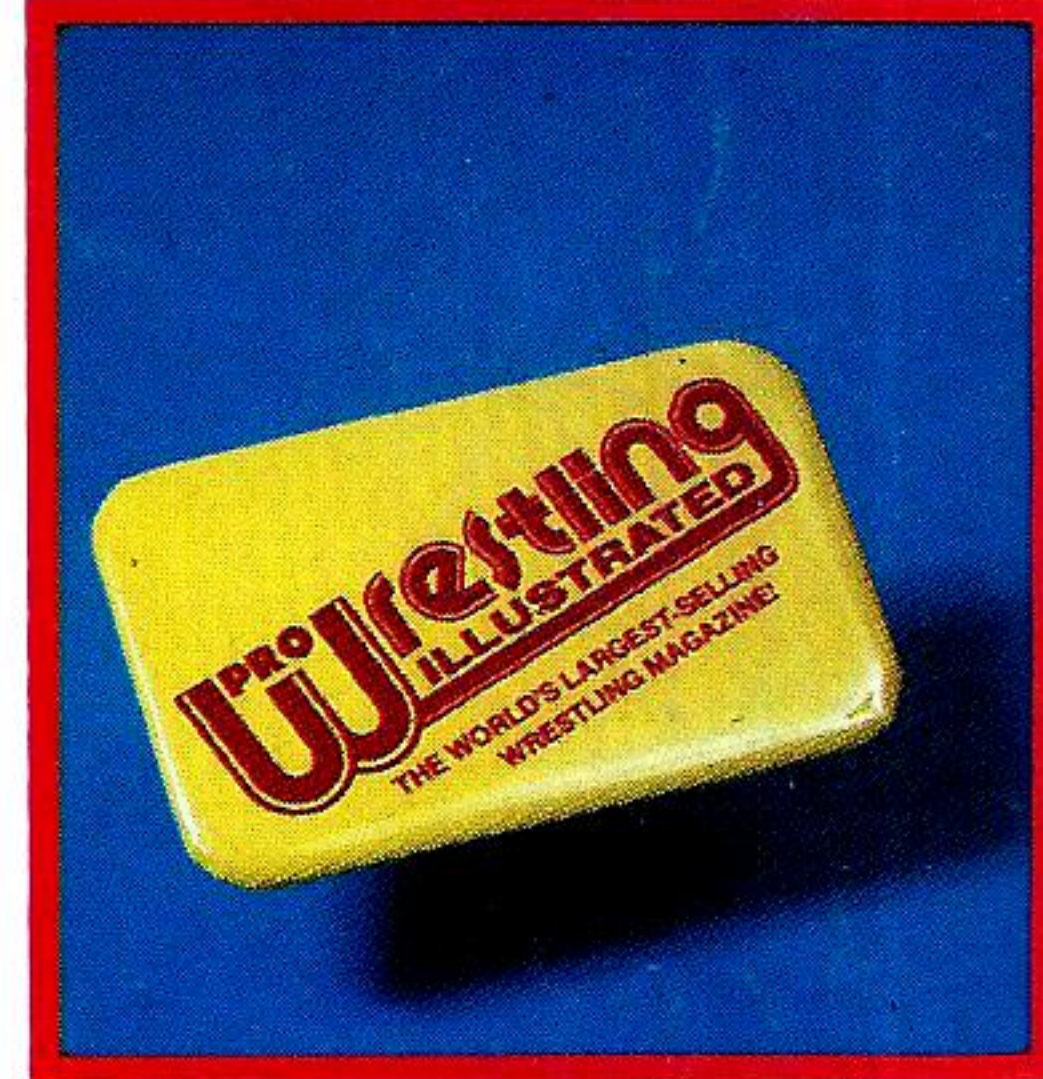
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PWI BUMPER STICKER	\$2.00 ea.		
PWI BUTTON	\$1.00 ea.		
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